

A. L. A. Number Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 4

June, 1899

No. 6

Contents

Monroe (Wis.) amusement room	The library in a small college	276
Mrs Alice B. Copeland	George T. Little	
Economical disposition of U. S. documents	Weeding out books	276
August Voges	H. N. Bullard	
Relation of trustee to the librarian	State library section	
J. H. Jenkins	The outlook	277
Ohio library association	Johnson Brigham	
Program	Dangers in organization	277-279
Index to scientific literature	Melvil Dewey	
Library schools	Scope of the state library	279-280
Drexel	W. E. Henry	
Illinois	Reports from different states	280-281
Washington	Thursday	
Editorial	General session	
American Library Association	Reports of coöperative schemes	281-283
Tuesday	Reception by the Piedmont driving club	283-284
Address of President Lane	Elementary section	
Reports of committees, etc.	Changing a subscription library to a free library	284-285
Elementary section	Mary E. Lindsay	
Women librarians in the business world	Management of small libraries	285-286
Mary Eileen Ahern	Marilla W. Freeman	
Book selection, buying and binding	Large library section	
Dr G. E. Wire	Library organization	286-287
Cataloging, accessioning and shelf-listing	John Thomson	
J. D. Fellows	Dr J. K. Hosmer	
College section	E. H. Anderson	
Classification for college libraries	Friday	
Olive Jones	Lithia Springs meeting	
Melvil Dewey	Officers elected	287
C. A. Cutter	Libraries in the Gulf states	287
Public meeting	W. Beer	
Presentation of deed to Atlanta	Open shelves	288
Mayor Woodward's address	W. H. Brett	
Address of welcome	Assistants	289
John Temple Graves	H. L. Elmendorf	
What a library should be	Trustees' section	290
Melvil Dewey	Revision of constitution	290-292
Traveling libraries	The trip to Atlanta and return	
F. A. Hutchins		292-295
Wednesday	Circulating libraries in the South	
General session		295-296
How to encourage libraries in small towns	Program of Library section of N. E. A.	
S. S. Green		296
How to start library commissions	News from the field	
L. E. Stearns		296-298
Women's clubs and the library movement	Publishers' department	
Eliza G. Browning	J. B. Lippincott Co. 246; A. C. McClurg & Co. 299; The Baker & Taylor Co. 302; G. & C. Merriam Co., 302; Lothrop Publishing Co. 303; Library Bureau 306.	
How to make a library attractive	Supply department	
Caroline M. Hewins	C. M. Higgins & Co. 300; Book Shop Bindery, 300; Library Bureau, 301, 305, 307; A. S. Clark, 303; Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict, 304; Hammond Typewriter Co., 308.	
The barbecue		
College section		
Coöperation in lending		
Dr E. C. Richardson		
G. F. Danforth		

Library Bureau

CHICAGO

215 Madison St.

Entered as second-class matter at Chicago Postoffice

"The Most Notable New Book of the Hour."—*Philadelphia Record*

The Taming of the Jungle

By DR. C. W. DOYLE

12mo, cloth, ornamental, \$1.00

"The Taming of the Jungle is one of the most striking books of Indian life that we have seen since Mr. Kipling produced his 'Plain Tales from the Hills,' and it does not suffer by comparison with the work that made Mr. Kipling famous. Indeed, if Dr. Doyle had been first in the field we venture to think that Mr. Kipling's work would have been adjudged less good than this later effort."—*N. Y. Literature*.

"Dr. Doyle has succeeded in making his sketches vivid as well as picturesque, and he seems to have seen deep into the 'motif' of the half civilized life about him. . . . 'The Taming of the Jungle' is a charm-

ing book both as a story and as a picture of human conditions."—*Brooklyn Daily Eagle*.

"In all Kipling's marvelous Indian tales, informed as they are by true genius, there is nothing superior to this series of episodes. Dr. Doyle has 'arrived' and Kipling has a worthy rival on his own ground. . . . The little volume is not an echo of Kipling in any way, but an original interpretation of the primitive people of the Terai, the great jungle that skirts the foot-hills of the Himalayas in the province of Kumaon."—*The Press*.

"The Most Notable New Book of the Hour."—*Philadelphia Record*

The Taming of the Jungle

By DR. C. W. DOYLE

"Not in many a long day has there appeared such a refreshingly original and strikingly meritorious work of fiction. Dr. Doyle must be hailed as a new star on the horizon. . . . 'The Taming of the Jungle' is unique, masterly, delightful. The spirit of the Jungle Mother hovers over its pages; we have glimpses of the morning beauty and moonlight romance and terror of the Terai—the great tract of jungle that skirts

the foot-hills of the Himalayas, in the province of Kumaon. With the realism of highest art, inspired by an intimacy of a dozen years, Dr. Doyle depicts these simple, primitive jungle folk, their child-like affection for their natural paradise, their rather 'low caste' Hindoo superstitions, their peculiar manners, vendettas, Padhani, love bargains, love idyls and love tragedies."—*The Record*, Philadelphia

"The Most Notable New Book of the Hour."—*Philadelphia Record*

The Taming of the Jungle

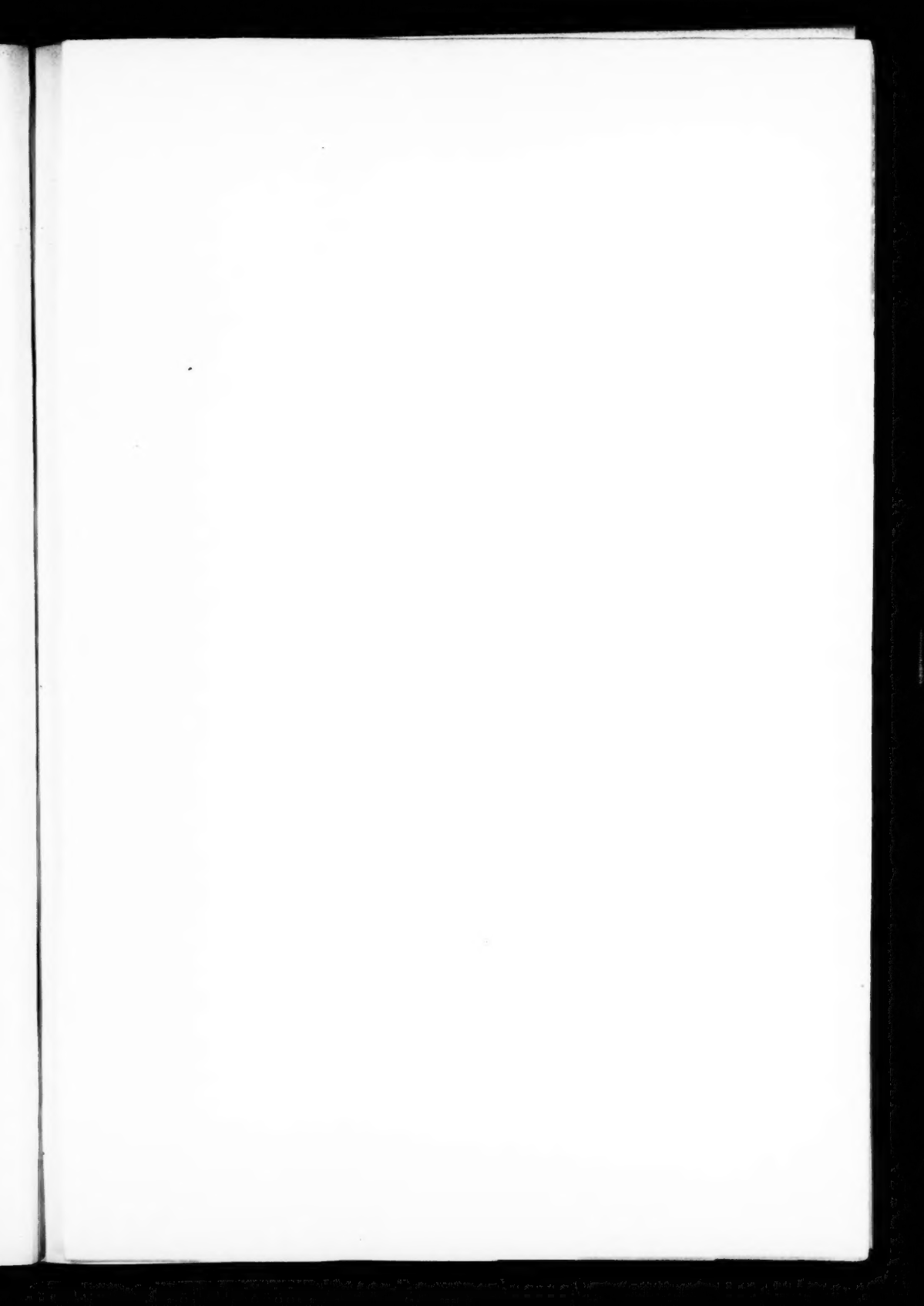
By DR. C. W. DOYLE

"'The Taming of the Jungle,' by Dr. C. W. Doyle, is less a story than a series of sketches dealing with India and Indian life; they are written with vigor; the characters are firmly drawn and the local color admirably preserved. The subject matter naturally recalls Mr. Kipling, but Dr. Doyle is no imitator; he records at first hand and with a full knowledge of his subject; he draws a character or a situation in a few

bold strokes, and like the greater master, he has the happy art of selection and condensation; and some of his most effective scenes are reached through hints rather than by elaborate description. The book is admirable, both in style and matter, and everywhere reveals the taste and imagination of the true literary artist."—*Saturday Evening Gazette*, Boston.

Sold by all Booksellers. Sent, postpaid, by the Publishers

**J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY, 714-20 Filbert Street
PHILADELPHIA**



Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 4

June, 1899

No. 6

The Monroe (Wis.) Amusement Room

Mrs Alice B. Copeland

Monroe is bountifully supplied with saloons, and the projectors of the amusement room earnestly wished to open a coffee room on the public square which should be supplied with some papers, and perhaps with some games, but we saw no way to raise the funds to do it.

We were deeply interested in the boys in their teens, who needed something to occupy the whole of their time.

We also saw that a number of boys who frequented the reading room did so more from need of a place to go than from a desire to read, and they crowded that room without great profit to themselves.

It happens that our library is housed in a long, one-story building, formerly used for county offices, and bought for its present use by the school district when the county had no further use for it.

Three-fifths of the building is used for library and reading room, and we asked and were granted the use of the rest of the building as a place of recreation, the two conditions of our use being, 1) that it should not be an expense to the district, and, 2) that there should always be a responsible adult in the room.

We asked individuals and organizations for contributions of money, games, pictures, furniture, and services.

The Woman's club of Monroe gave the undertaking a good start by the

generous appropriation of \$25, with which, and some private donations, we removed a partition, and painted and papered the space allowed us. Some chairs, tables, and games, and money to buy more, were donated.

The room was opened in the spring, but we do not find it necessary to keep it open through the summer.

The first winter the fuel was donated by dealers, and money came to buy more games and furniture. Some pictures, too, appeared upon the walls.

At the end of that season the expenses had exceeded the income by about \$5, and that fact being reported to the Woman's club, the club supplied the deficit, a well-appreciated act.

During that summer (1897) E. C. Copeland arranged a game of baseball, to be played by the business men, one-half of the business part of the town, geographically, being arrayed against the other half. This game raised for the amusement room a goodly sum, that paid the running expenses of the room for the winter of 1897-98, and if the cold weather does not last too long will pay them through the next winter.

On leaving Monroe for some time, the mother of the amusement room asked the Woman's club to assume the care of the room, which it did, and placed it in the care of Mrs E. C. Copeland.

In the selection of games for the room during the earlier portion of the time, nothing was admitted that would lead to any considerable noise. The two

sets of chessmen were in demand, and other quiet games.

More recently caroms and archerina have been introduced, six boards being in use throughout some evenings.

Since the introduction of these games the attendance of boys has been greater, and it may be more exclusively of the class of boys that we want.

Where two dozen boys are playing a comparatively noisy game, their voices will inevitably be somewhat raised, and such games as chess and checkers cannot be played. These have fallen into disuse.

Other objections to any noise in a room like ours is that it is wearing on the adult attendant, and unless the building has remarkable walls the sound of the voices will be heard in the reading room.

We have never been embarrassed by too many offers of services as attendants.

A serious objection to volunteer service is that some people are not as punctual and regular in attendance on gratuitous service as they need be in such a position.

This winter individuals who were unable to spend the evenings in that way have engaged a lady, admirably suited to the place, to attend to the work for them, so that the room is under the care of the same person several evenings in succession, and the result is highly satisfactory.

The librarian in particular sees that it is a vast improvement on the old way of a change of administration every night. By all means try and have such a place in the charge of one person if possible.

The Economical Disposition of U. S. Documents

August Voges, Newberry library, Chicago

The richness of our government publications and the cheapness of their acquisition make them of inestimable value to all libraries. The greatest bugbear has been, how to catalog and classify them with the least possible expense.

The set of sheep-bound congressional documents number about 4000v., and are indexed in the indices furnished by the government, and may be found in the set as follows:

- 1) 1794-1881=48-2. S. M. v. 4.
- 2) 1889-1893=52-2. H. M. v. 9.
- 3) 1893-1895=54-1. H. E. v. 75.

The gap 1881-89 has not yet been filled, and its more important contents should be shortly cataloged.

In addition to these indices, the Ames' finding list and the Crandall check-lists are good text-books.

1 Collate set of documents by the Crandall check-list. The idiosyncracies found in collation will be the best apology for my method of treatment.

2 Use given numbers as accession numbers, and write, or preferably stamp them on the inside of the front cover only.

Let A represent the senate documents, and B the house documents.

3 The documents will then be in the following order:

- A—Senate doc.
- a—Senate journal.
- b—Senate executive doc.
- c—Senate miscellaneous.
- d—Senate reports of committees.
- B—House doc.
- a—House journal.
- b—House executive doc.
- c—House miscellaneous doc.
- d—House reports of committees.

Use the 5-inch L. B. shelf-label holder, and with a set of rubber stamps denote the congress and session, using the following abbreviations: 53-1, 53-2, 53-3, 53-x=(extra or special session).

The following might be used if found expedient, but I deem it superfluous: S. E., S. M., S. R., H. E., H. M., H. R.

This will suffice for quick access to all documents, and will be found on trial more convenient than the unsightly 3- and 4-figure label on the back of the book.

In either index or law book all documents are called for by congressional session and volume. The Crandall check-list gives the number of the vol-

ume, which must then be found on the stack; this will be a waste of at least two or three minutes.

5 Do not attempt to catalog documents of the congressional set except duplicates, or such as are of special value in a particular department. In such case two ways present themselves:

1) Keep documents in regular file, and make cross reference by card and dummy; or, 2) classify and catalog the particular document in its regular classification, keeping its dummy in the set.

The Ames' finding list, already referred to, will be found of great service for cross reference and dummy work, showing where in the set of congressional documents the individual volumes of certain series are found.

I shall be glad if criticism be made upon what I have said here about the disposition of public documents.

Relation of the Trustee to the Librarian

J. H. Jenkins, Oshkosh, Wis.

It is difficult to generalize on the relation of the trustee to the librarian, so much depends upon the kind of library and perhaps upon the kind of librarian. The large library, with its many thousands of books, and its great endowment, affords opportunity for the employment of such a skilled officer, so thoroughly up in his work that the chief work of the trustees is to look after the finances and other temporalities. Their attitude toward the librarian is like that of the members of a board of education toward the superintendent of schools, when the latter is an acknowledged master of his profession. The best results are obtained by letting him have his own way and holding him responsible for the results.

Such libraries, however, are the exception rather than the rule. The great majority of them are either wholly built and maintained by the city or district, or else are built and equipped by private beneficence, but maintained by local appropriations. It is with such that I judge this subject has to deal.

The duties of the trustees of such libraries divide themselves as follows:

1) I think frequent meetings and regular attendance. No one should accept such an appointment who cannot give to it some portion of his time. The very least should be one meeting per month. For larger libraries the trustees should meet as often as every two weeks. At these meetings the librarian should be present, and should have the privilege of submitting a report as to the workings of the library and its needs. The more competent the librarian the more valuable the report, and the more weight the recommendations should have with the trustees. The interest shown by the trustees meets with prompt response by the librarian, who feels that his work is appreciated and that his efforts are sustained and encouraged.

2) I think the librarian should be put in charge of a specified fund for the purchase of books without waiting for the action of the trustees. It is the business of the librarian to keep informed as to the leading publications of the day, and in the important works of fiction the library should be promptly supplied. Trustees, as a rule, move slowly. It is a graceful act of confidence in the librarian to leave to his or her discretion the expenditure of a reasonable sum.

3) It is only fair to the librarian that he should be relieved from all care and responsibility in financial matters. This is distinctly the duty of the trustees, who should shoulder all schemes for the raising of money, and leave the librarian free for his specific duties.

The trustees should recognize the fact that to be a good librarian requires specific training; that it ranks among the learned professions and should be properly recompensed; that it requires continual research, wide information, as well as infinite tact and patience. The relations of the trustees to the librarian should be marked by appreciation, sympathy, and confidence—a frank and mutual interchange of opinions, and full coöperation in the desire to make the free public library a potent influence for good in the community.

Ohio Library Association

The president and a number of the members of the O. L. A. being present at the A. L. A. conference at Atlanta, it was deemed advisable to hold an informal meeting to discuss arrangements for the annual meeting of the association, to be held in Toledo August 9-11.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr Locke, at the hotel at Lithia Springs. There were present besides, Miss Doren, Miss Pierce, Mr Brett, Miss Parker, Miss Eastman, and Miss Ahern.

After calling the meeting to order, in the course of his remarks Mr Locke strongly advocated the association taking up the work of making a substantial and characteristic library exhibit at the Ohio Centennial to be held in 1902. After a thorough discussion of the situation the following program was prepared, subject to change as occasion may demand:

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 9, 1899

- 1 President's address.
- 2 Report of Secretary Orr.
- 3 Report of treasurer, Miss Sherwood.
- 4 Report of committee on legislation.
Report of committee on library extension.
Report of committee on public documents.
Report of committee on Sunday-school and Y. M. C. A.
Report of committee on coöperation of library and schools.
Auditor's report.
Report of committee on necrology.
- 5 Name nominating and place of meeting committees to report Thursday afternoon.
- 6 Open the discussion on Centennial and appoint committee.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

- 2:30 1 Public library from the user's point of view.
- 2 Library extension work in the State federation of women's clubs.
- 3 The Library field.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting will be held at the Opera House, where a number of addresses will be given on subjects of interest.

THURSDAY MORNING

- 9:30-12 Joint session trustees and librarians.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

- 2 p. m. Reports of committees—Nominating, Place of meeting, Library exhibit.

- 3 p. m. Trustees' section, College section, Small public libraries section.

THURSDAY EVENING

- 5 or 6 Possible trip to Put-in-Bay, with Library institute there, Friday, August 11.

LINDA A. EASTMAN,
Secretary (pro tem.).

Index to Scientific Literature

With the beginning of the twentieth century it is expected that the International committee on indexing scientific literature will begin publishing its cards. At a recent conference of the American members of the committee, held at the Smithsonian institution, Washington, some interesting details were discussed. It was thought that, as many as 160,000 titles would be indexed during the first year, and the housing as well as the buying of such an array gave pause to more than one member of the committee. It was suggested that each title, as far as possible, should be followed on its card by a very brief description of the article, paper, or report to be given by the writer himself. To this it was objected that a professional "abstracter" is much more likely to write such a description helpfully than is the writer of a paper, who very frequently is apt to over-emphasize his own particular contribution to a discovery, or may wholly fail to combine brevity and intelligibility, as a practised hand would easily do. Nevertheless, so many titles are not descriptive, or quite misleading, that the necessity for a note of some kind was admitted by everybody present.

When one sees the vast array of unwieldy volumes which contain the titles of modern medical literature, the question suggests itself, Was not the indexing of so much that is out-of-date and worthless a waste of time and money? With papers, transactions, and reports, as with books, the logic of events is every day strengthening the argument of Charles Francis Adams for a winnowing out of the wheat of literature from its chaff.

Library Schools

Drexel

Lucy W. Mitchell, assistant instructor in the Library school, died April 20. Miss Mitchell had been a teacher in the school barely two months, but had won the affection and esteem of the students through her charm of personality and mental power. The school suffered a serious loss, and the library profession a capable and enthusiastic worker, in her death. Miss Mitchell was a graduate of the school class of '97, had been an assistant for one year in the Osterhout library, Wilkes Barre, and coming to the institute library last October as evening assistant was appointed to this position on the regular library staff in February.

Commencement exercises will be held on July 9.

About twelve of the graduating class of the school will begin work on the temporary cataloging staff of the library of the university of Pennsylvania, on June 1.

Some interesting bulletins, prepared by the students as a problem, are on exhibition in the library, and have attracted considerable attention. Each student selected her own subject and treated it according to her own ideas of what a bulletin should be, the main object being to attract the attention of readers to some topic of general interest, and the books about it that could be found in the library. The subjects included some books for summer reading: Rudyard Kipling, Boutel de Monvel, some recent southern writers, Elizabeth and Robert Browning, Gladstone, Birds, Mendelssohn, the American Library Association, Howard Pyle.

ALICE B. KROEGER.

Illinois

Mr Dewey, who came to Champaign to address the High school conference on Relations of the high schools to the universities, gave two informal talks, May 17 and 18, to the members of the library school. His subject was, The qualifications of a librarian. It is needless to state how enjoyable every mo-

ment was to his hearers. He was entertained by Director Katharine L. Sharp and Pres. A. S. Draper.

C. W. Alvord, instructor in history and mathematics in the preparatory school, gave an interesting talk to the seniors and juniors a few days since on Books on medieval history. This will be followed by a talk on Sources of books on medieval history.

Traveling library No. 1, placed in Savoy a week since, is already popular. Fifteen books went out the first afternoon and many have been renewed. Members of the library school are much pleased at the success of their first effort.

Miss Sharp attended the A. L. A. conference at Atlanta, and returned Tuesday, May 16. On the morning of the 19th she gave a report of both the pleasure and business of the conference to all the members of library school.

Washington

The course in Library science at the Columbian university, Washington, was instituted in October, 1897.

The senior class is nearing the end of its 'two years' course. It has been very fortunate in having instructors who have had a wide experience, as Dr A. R. Spofford, of the Congressional library; W. P. Cutter, librarian of the department of Agriculture, and Henderson Presnell, librarian of the Bureau of education.

Bibliographies have been assigned to the members of the class as follows: Library buildings, plans and illustrations; Book-binding; The card catalog; Incunabula; Library shelving; Early printed books; Queen Victoria, Bismarck, and Gladstone. Papers are also being prepared on the following subjects: Charging systems; Organization of libraries; Library commissions; Growth of public libraries; German libraries; Sunday opening of libraries; Spanish war, and Reading for the young. Of late instruction has been given in the cataloging of government publications.

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Library Bureau - - - - - Publishers

M. E. AHERN - - - - - Editor

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS:

J. C. DANA.....Springfield (Mass.) P. L.
 THERESA WEST ELMENDORF.....Buffalo P. L.
 H. L. ELMENDORF.....St. Louis P. L.
 F. M. CRUNDEN.....St. Louis P. L.
 MELVIL DEWEY.....Director N. Y. State library school
 CAROLINE H. GARLAND.....Dover (N. H.) P. L.
 CAROLINE M. HEWINS.....Hartford P. L.
 F. H. HILD.....Chicago P. L.
 HANNAH P. JAMES.....Osterhout F. L., Wilkes Barre
 ALICE B. KROEGER, Director library class,
 Drexel Institute, Philadelphia
 GEORGE ILES.....New York City
 T. L. MONTGOMERY, Wagner Institute of Science library,
 Philadelphia
 MARY W. PLUMMER, Director library class,
 Pratt Institute, Brooklyn
 J. C. ROWELL.....University of California library,
 Berkeley
 KATHARINE L. SHARP, Director State library school,
 Champaign, Ill.

Subscription - - - - - \$1 a year
 Five copies to one library - - - - - \$4 a year
 Single number - - - - - 20 cents

PUBLIC LIBRARIES does not appear in August nor September, and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

THE meeting of the A. L. A. at Atlanta has come and gone, carrying its record into the history of the association. This, in many ways, was a unique meeting. It was held in the midst of a section where the scope and purpose of the work is not very clearly understood, but where there is a sincere appreciation of the objects toward which the association is striving, though without a formal recognition of the power of the library. It was a revelation to both the hosts and the visitors to find, on the one hand, that knowledge could be effective because systematically disseminated among the people, and on the other, to find so quick an appreciation of the ideas advanced among a people who have not been particularly progressive in library movements.

In the association itself old-time lines of precedence were shifted somewhat, and it was an interesting thing to watch the drift of old sentiment and the formation of new. The very earnest, not to say excited, attention given to the revision of the constitution, and the disposition to give everyone interested in the matter a fair hearing, was indicative of the fraternal spirit which

so clearly marks the action of those interested in carrying on the work of the association.

Considering the time of year and the long distances a majority had to travel, the attendance was exceedingly good.

The hospitality of the southern people was all that tradition has painted it, and many a pleasant memory will long remain in the minds of those fortunate enough to have enjoyed it at the Atlanta meeting of the A. L. A.

THERE is much reason for congratulation in the ranks of librarianship when such men as Dr Canfield, of the Ohio university, lay down the work of a lifetime in one line of education and take up the phase of it presented in librarianship. It lifts the average of equipment of the whole profession, and at the same time spurs on those already engaged in the work to an ambition to compass larger things.

Such an acquisition is an inspiration to the profession itself, and at the same time creates a greater respect for the aims and achievements of the craft in the eyes of the general public. Dr Canfield is a man who has held high rank in the National educational association, and has filled high and responsible positions in the university work of the country. The libraries under his jurisdiction have always been well looked after, and have had the respect not only of those whom they served, but have ranked well among the libraries of their class.

The library of Columbia university, with its new building, its many recent munificent gifts, and with Dr Canfield at its head, will be a power for progress that will attain an enviable position of usefulness in the onward sweep of librarianship.

It is with a feeling of great pleasure that PUBLIC LIBRARIES bids Dr Canfield a hearty welcome into the ranks of librarians.

THE A. L. A. constitution as amended is presented on another page of PUBLIC LIBRARIES. This form is the result of serious and careful consideration for

the most part by those interested in the points at issue. Much time and thought were given to the matter by the committee in charge before presenting the revised draft at Atlanta, and it was no criticism on their work that the result, as presented, did not meet the approval of all the members of the association. That is hardly possible under any circumstance.

It was certainly a very graceful thing for the committee, after receiving the criticisms in the different sessions when the matter was presented, to set a special time for hearing further suggestions, as was done. While there was some little question as to the advisability of prolonging the discussions on a later occasion into the wee small hours, when it was out of the question to have a large attendance of members, there could be no question of the faithfulness and zeal of those who staid by the matter till it was finally shaped and was in form for presentation. The draft as voted on by those present at the meeting at Lithia Springs will be voted on at Montreal for final acceptance or rejection, and will stand as the accepted revision of the meeting of 1899.

On the whole, we think the draft is very satisfactory, and as near the expression of a majority of the members as it would be possible to obtain.

THE library movement has gone forward this year with more than its usual pace, and the most encouraging feature is the fact that the advancement has not been confined to any particular locality or class of libraries. The movement has been widespread, and has engaged public attention to a larger degree than it has for the past fifty years. Nearly every legislative body, from congress down, has had up for consideration some question touching library interests. Library commissions have been authorized in Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, New Jersey, and Colorado, and while measures providing for them failed to pass in Illinois and a few other

places, by a small margin, the failures are attributed to personal reasons. Wisconsin library commission has had a decided increase both in money and scope, not only from the state, but the private donations toward establishing libraries in that state are almost beyond belief. Mr Carnegie has been liberal beyond measure in giving to Atlanta, Washington, Pittsburg, and other cities, a generous share of his millions for library purposes. A large number of subscription libraries have opened their doors and extended their privileges without price to whomsoever will avail themselves of them. The women's clubs, which indeed deserve the largest share of credit for the new life which has been infused into the library movement in various parts of the country, from their own means are sending out traveling libraries into the sparsely settled districts, and bringing hope and comfort into many monotonous lives which did not know them before. This is a splendid library era! These are the times when results of long, faithful, and conscientious work on the part of many not now in evidence are being made manifest, and one in the midst of it all, if his heart be fired with the true library spirit, can but rejoice in his opportunities and lend his whole strength to place two books where only one was before.

THE election of Reuben Gold Thwaites as president of the A. L. A. is a fitting recognition of one who has done much to reflect credit on the profession. The library of the State historical society of Wisconsin, of which he is secretary, and which is the general state library of Wisconsin, is perhaps the leading one of its kind in America. His literary work is of a kind which has given valuable contributions not only to American history but to general knowledge of certain parts of America and its people. In view of the Montreal meeting, his selection at this time is peculiarly timely.

American Library Association

Atlanta, Ga., May 8-12, 1899

The twenty-first general meeting of the A. L. A. called together nearly 200 people, all interested more or less in library work, at Atlanta and vicinity, and a most pleasant and profitable meeting was held May 8-12, besides the innumerable side conferences and discussions during the week. The company was pretty well distributed as to localities represented, though the middle west naturally furnished a majority of the library workers. The president kept the association down to serious business in a most indefatigable manner, and the program as originally planned was carried out almost entirely. Many social attentions were offered by the people of Atlanta, and every possible thing was done to make the stay pleasant; the only drawback being the inability of the party to work all day and part of the night, and at the same time have strength and opportunity to indulge in every pleasure offered.

Many of the visitors arrived on Saturday and Sunday, and were ready to welcome the great body of delegates who arrived in Atlanta on Monday evening. Headquarters had been established at the Kimball house, and while under the circumstances this was the best arrangement that could be made, still it but increased the sentiment, already strong among librarians, that city meetings amid noise and confusion and other discomforts are not so desirable as those held at country resorts.

An informal reception by the citizens of Atlanta was held in the parlors of the hotel Monday night, and a pleasant evening was spent in renewing old acquaintances and making new ones.

First session

The regular meeting began on Tuesday morning in the assembly room of the Kimball. The president, W. C. Lane, of Harvard, after a few words of greeting, gave the regular presidential address. He spoke in part as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen: We are now ready, I think, to open the meeting of

the American Library Association, and I would like to call your attention to the fact that I have called you to order with the gavel presented to us at the last meeting at Chautauqua Lake by the library association. On this gold band it has places for the names of future presidents of the association. While we have a pleasant regard for the success of this meeting, and will look with pleasure to future gatherings, still the 10 years indicated by the gold band spaces will not outlast our memory of the pleasant meeting of last year.

The program of our four days' festival, which is in your hands, shows the character of the feast to which we are bidden and the succession of courses of which we are asked to partake. It shows that beside the more solid and substantial viands, of which I think you will find good store and full variety, there is an occasional interlude of lighter refreshment—a cup of Roman punch now and then as it were, in the shape of a reception, a barbecue, or a trolley ride, to make it easier to profit by the rest. The rulers of the feast have honestly tried to heed the warnings of their predecessors, and have not intended to overlook their tables.

This is the twenty-first of our annual gatherings, and surely by this time their purpose and the spirit which issues from them should be clear. We come together from all over the union, and even from its borders, to get mutual help and counsel; to compare notes on the best ways of accomplishing our objects. We find that others have been wrestling with the same problems that have engaged our thoughts, and we have discovered that they have usually reached some different solution from that we have arrived at, a solution which may or may not be better fitted to our conditions, but which in any case is stimulating and instructive. We realize how broad and how many-sided are the interests, and how widely active are the forces with which we deal, and as this becomes clearer and more real to each of us, that living spark of eager purpose is transmitted from one to another, brightening

in the older, and it may be weary workers, and kindling afresh in the younger and untried ones the common desire to make the library a potent force for good in this masterful, moving, yet often floundering and mistaken world.

For many years these meetings of the American Library Association were the only opportunity for librarians to come together and know one another, and carry back to their individual work a quickened sense of responsibility and new consciousness of power to grapple with difficulties. That the association has thus satisfied a real need is shown not only by its steady growth, but by the number of local associations, covering individual states or parts thereof, that have sprung up in the course of the last 10 years. There are now 23 such associations in 20 different states, and it is safe to say that 10 years hence there will not be a state in the union in which the library workers do not regularly meet together for mutual encouragement and counsel.

This year the association has come further south than ever before. We have come, I trust, with open minds, ready to learn whatever we can of new conditions here, and ready to help if we can to open the way for larger library development than the south has yet known. We congratulate those of you whose homes and work are here in the south on the field you have before you, and on the influence in life and thought that you can exercise. In the progress already made throughout the country you have a rich store of experience to draw upon, and advantage such as no group of library workers or promoters has had in equal degree before. It is only yesterday, for example, that any systematic attempt was made to provide books and build up a reading habit in villages where as yet it is practically impossible to establish permanent libraries, but the story of the traveling library as now developed in 25 different states shows how much can be done for just such communities. Never before have such active measures been taken to bring the library into line with the

school, and to influence the character of children's reading, and the story of what has been accomplished, and the endless variety of the work in its adaptations is an inspiration for all who take it up in new fields, for the lesson it impresses is not what great establishments are required for success—though there is abundant use for great establishment and ample means—but rather how much can be done by simple means directed by human tact and sympathy. You have graciously welcomed us to this beautiful land of the south. We would also gladly welcome you in even larger numbers to the happy and satisfying field of labor in which we are engaged, and bid you to be of good courage.

Librarians, it seems to me, are on the whole fairly contented and happy people, yet I doubt if we realize as fully as we ought our many blessings. We have difficulties to contend with. Who have not? We sometimes meet ingratitude and misunderstanding, but there is nothing strange in that. On the whole, is there any work, I wonder, which yields more satisfaction than ours, or better repays careful, well directed, unselfish effort, or stands in more interested relations with the work of others. We collect and preserve the material for the student; we coöperate with the teacher in bringing moral forces to bear on character; we help train the engineer and merchant, and we lighten the labor and refresh the leisure of all. But besides all this we have our hand upon one of the great instruments of human progress. It is through the printed book that the forces of civilization become cumulative. Without it one generation could touch only the generation which next preceded and that which immediately follows itself, and would have no connection with other generations. It would lose what earlier times had gained, and could not itself transmit to more distant ages the result of its own experiences. Books speak to us from the past in no uncertain or fearful tones. They at least are perfectly frank with us; they expose our folly, they chide our passion, they soften our prejudice,

and we can listen to them and receive their lesson with an openness and candor which the spoken words of our immediate neighbor too often fail to win. Books thus make possible a continuity in human progress, and stir in us a conscious and wholesome dependence on all that other generations have thought and wrought. There thus accumulates an ever-increasing store of experience from which to draw strength for the work of the present.

What a privilege it is that we are always free to place ourselves at the service of another. Most men are so engrossed by their own work (so called) that they have no time, or not as much as they would gladly take, to serve the needs of others. Other callings, of course, when traced back to the basis on which they rest are all forms of service, or the world would not long allow them to endure. Still in many other occupations the man more easily deceives himself into thinking he is working for himself, be he farmer, stock broker, or politician, and in this way he loses sight of the true significance of what he does. The librarian may be blind to the character of his work also, and think that by doing such and such things he is simply earning so many dollars a month for his own needs (and from this point of view how little cause for satisfaction he often has); but in the librarian's case it is easy to see the matter in a very different light. Really the librarian is one of the few persons in the world who enjoys the luxury of never having to do anything for himself, but of being always free to do for some one else. Is not this a great privilege and do we appreciate it as we should? Do we complain of drudgery sometimes? What is drudgery? Merely certain regular duties which have to be done systematically to keep one's work in good order. Every calling has such duties attached to it as a matter of course. After all how little there is of this in our case that does not have some human interest to lighten it, or does not give a chance for some ingenuity to furnish it. How full of variety are the demands

made upon us. What fertility of resource is brought into play in satisfying them.

What a chance we have to overcome our prejudices and catch the other man's point of view. If we cannot put ourselves promptly in his place, and get at least a glimpse of the subject as he sees it, we lose our chance to help him, for he is very unlikely, as you have no doubt noticed, to think that his point of view needs any explanation or is in any way peculiar to himself. We are troubled with the same limitations, of course, and sometimes we fail miserably to get the slightest foothold where the other man stands, but when we do succeed we are rewarded by a warm appreciation of our "understanding" and "natural good sense," and the exercise keeps us limber-minded and quick to apprehend.

How many other fortunate conditions surround our work! One is, that we all like to talk, that all have something to say, and that all want to hear what others have to tell. To satisfy these conditions is a problem which we shall try to solve here as best we can, and the president, therefore, invites your attention now to the words of others.

At the conclusion of Pres. Lane's address a resolution of thanks for the very satisfactory work of Mr Lane, in bringing the attention of President McKinley to the wishes of the A. L. A. in regard to the appointment of a librarian of Congress, was unanimously adopted.

After several announcements the reports of the various committees were received, all showing a live condition of work.

The report of Treas. Jones showed the receipts for the year to have been \$2624, and disbursements \$2188, leaving a balance of \$436. The membership numbered 501. Six deaths for the year were reported, as follows: Hannah E. Bigelow, Marlborough, Mass.; Arthur M. Jellison, San Francisco; Dr W. Pepper, Philadelphia; J. C. Kittredge, Tewksbury, Mass.; Leonard Thompson,

Woburn, Mass.; Mrs Ernst Lemcke, Orange, N. J.

The committee on public documents reported progress and offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the A. L. A. commend the suggestion that the comprehensive catalog of public documents should be published bi-annually, so as to cover an entire congress, instead of the annual covering only one or two sessions, and urges that the documents be printed and distributed by the government printing office as soon after the close of each session as practicable.

Resolved, That the A. L. A. extend its thanks to Senator Lodge, chairman of the joint committee on printing; to Public printer Palmer, and to Supt. Ferrell, for their courteous coöperation with the association in the further improvement of the publication of public documents, and that the committee on public documents be instructed to extend such thanks.

C. C. Soule reported on the endowment fund. A fund of \$100,000 with an income of \$5000 was thought to be necessary to carry on the work. There is on hand a fund sufficient for only \$300 interest yearly.

An objection was made to the keeping of the funds lying idle, or only at an interest of 2 per cent and a suggestion made to lend the money to the Publishing section for them to invest. Mr Soule said this plan was prohibited by the constitution; but with sufficient security a small amount might be lent. A somewhat heated discussion arose upon the matter. Finally the trustees committee's report on endowment was accepted.

Mr Soule read a report on library tracts. In this report a number of extracts from the various letters received by librarians, asking every sort of question relative to books and libraries, was read. The extracts gave some idea of the information necessary to be kept up by every librarian. To supply this almost impossible demand upon a librarian's mind and knowledge it was suggested to print certain tracts on these subjects:

Why should we have a public library?

How to start public libraries.

Traveling libraries.

Suggestions for governing boards of

libraries, as recently followed by libraries.

Library and buildings.

Selection of books.

Scope and management of college libraries.

The report for an American library exhibit at Paris in 1900 was read. The New York state library offers to arrange this exhibit for the association, provided that it may be stated that the New York library did so. The offer was commended by the committee.

The New York library will be in charge of the exhibit in the coming world's fair. A committee of three was appointed to receive suggestions.

The committee in charge was appointed as follows: W. T. Peoples, chairman; Adelaide Hasse and C. W. Andrews.

Mr Fletcher reported on the subject of title-pages of periodicals, in which publishers were urged to furnish title-pages and indexes with every publication. The report was accepted and the committee continued.

The motion that Andrew Carnegie be elected an honorary member of the A. L. A. was unanimously carried.

Tuesday afternoon—Elementary section

Chairman, Dr George E. Wire, Worcester, Mass.

The meeting was called to order and the first paper was read by Miss Ahern on

Women as librarians in the business world

Miss Ahern spoke in part as follows:

No woman can hope to reach any standing or field for effective work in the library profession any more than in any other who does not bring to it that love which suffereth long and is kind, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, vaunteth not itself, thinketh no evil, is fervent in spirit and diligent in business. That there are many such the rolls of those in high places amply testify. That there are some who have not caught the meaning of their work one's daily experience and observation make clear. There is still some discrimination against the sex in the minds of library boards 'tis true, but on the

women in the world to which most library trustees belong must fall in a large measure the blame, though the women librarians are not wholly to be excused.

One of the first and most important lessons which a woman who enters the business world needs to learn, is the seeming paradox, to forget she is a woman and at the same time keep ever before her that she is a woman. She should lose all sight of preliminary bounds, which are perfectly proper in the relations of the social world, but which do not exist in the business world. That there would exist a more ideal condition of affairs if the business world were more polite, did recognize that certain forms and ceremonies make people happier, may be true, but that it does not write its code under these lines is beyond dispute.

In meeting the obligations which are assumed on entering this field of labor, as in all others, no consideration should be demanded in the fulfillment of the duties connected therewith on any grounds that would not be justifiable were a man in the place. It may work extra hardship on a woman who has duties to perform outside the library if she obeys the rule to be at her desk at nine o'clock every morning; but that is not considered sufficient excuse for her tardy arrival. If arrangement is made by the library which will relieve the pressure on her a favor has been granted, not a right conceded.

On the business side of library work all ideas of sex, color, or previous conditions are properly eliminated. A woman is engaged to do certain things because as an individual she is supposed to be able to perform them, and no question of privilege other than as an individual should be looked for. The sooner the women who are in the busy working world comprehend this point and act accordingly, the sooner will the problem of women's wages, positions, and promotion be settled.

As for the second part of the paradox, every woman, who, by force of circumstances, is compelled to be a part

of the machinery of public affairs, owes it as a solemn duty not only to herself, but to every other woman so situated, to try to live up to the finest ideals of supreme womanhood. No woman striving ever so hard to play the part of a man has ever succeeded in doing more than to give just cause for a blush to the rest of her kind.

The dignified woman never has any complaint to make of those with whom she comes in contact in a business life. She need not be so frigid in her demeanor as to be repellant, but she can be possessed of a winning sweetness which comes from a sympathetic attitude towards others, and which will only be emphasized by the quiet calm that is the outward evidence of mental equipoise. The flippant answer or banter is nowhere more out of place than in one who is serving in a public library. It detracts from the proper feeling that a library is a source of help and light and sweetness, which it is the duty of everyone engaged in the work to keep before the eyes of the public. If nature has not endowed the woman who desires to enter the library profession with this dignity of manner, this commendable characteristic, it is well to set about its cultivation at once, for it is a well-known fact that it is quite as easy to train a set of manners as a set of morals, and as the attribute of dignity can be classified under both headings, it can be easily seen what rare advantages belong to the woman who can claim it as her own.

Then there is another attribute which has no place in the equipment of a woman librarian, and that is that almost indefinable something called "feelings." It is sometimes called a form of egotism, though not generally recognized as such by its possessor, but which nevertheless is as self-centered as the conceit which springs from vanity, and while it may not be so arrogant, is hardly less provoking.

As a matter of fact it seems to me, after a long service of years for the public, that in this workaday, practical world, the less one thinks about one's

self and one's feelings the better, and the best chance of happiness lies in forgetting ourselves and striving to help others.

In contemplating library work as a livelihood, the first thing to consider is the fact that the outside of the books will require attention as well as the inside, and the fact that a girl likes to read is not necessarily *prima facie* evidence that she will make a good librarian, or certainly is not a prime requisite for a technical librarian, who is somewhat hampered in her cataloging or classifying unless a liking of that kind is constantly held in check.

The chief requisite of a librarian, I should say, and the one in which observation would lead me to say there is the greatest lack among women in general, is executive ability, and a knowledge of business methods. I do not mean to be understood as belittling general culture and technical knowledge, they of course are essential; but more librarians possess the latter than may be found exercising the former, and as the head of an institution the first qualifications are most necessary. The details of arrangement may be left to others, but the librarian herself must meet that most exacting public, the public which gets something for nothing, and with tact, judgment, and skill win its approval of her plans for meeting the needs of the community. She must have skill in managing others, and setting them to do her bidding without a loss of that sympathetic relation between librarian and staff so necessary for success in managing the institution.

The woman librarian, more than the man, has to be on her guard against personalities entering into her administration. I have been told over and over of the trial it was to them to hold themselves at the proper point where they could be the friend of those about them, and at the same time maintain the place of an officer on duty. Only executive ability will carry one safely through these things, and serious thought should be given to its cultivation, for it can be acquired.

To this executive ability must be added a sense of business principles, and what may be termed appreciation of the situation.

While learning the forms and processes necessary to the easy running of a library, it should be borne in mind that there is also the other side. While a librarian should know how to meet her reading public, she should also know how to meet her board. While she should know how to charge and discharge the books which the public takes, she should also be capable of auditing accounts and buying intelligently; and by that I do not mean what she buys so much as how she buys. In ordering anything for the library, books or supplies, she should sink the librarian in the buyer. Orders come for supplies to the Library Bureau, and I only speak of this because I know more about it than some other lines, which, from their ambiguity and loose form, might be made into orders for almost anything. Because of personal friendship oftentimes with the librarian, some of the worst mistakes are remedied, and time and money saved to the librarian. But sometimes these orders fall into the hands of a clerk to whom Mary Smith is no more than a name, and of whose library situation he knows absolutely nothing. Then there is abundance of mischievous work to straighten out. He directs a letter of inquiry, and she is delayed in her work because the clerk has not added mind reading to his other accomplishments. A librarian, in order to be a success must be acquainted, and thoroughly so, with the business world, its methods and rules, its requirements and privileges. A librarian may be in close touch with her readers; she may have an elaborate system of cataloging and classification; but if her reports come up to the library board in a slipshod, confused state, bearing signs of a lack of what is termed business sense, her standing with them is imperiled, and where a librarian has lost the admiration of her board her influence in that community is at an end.

When a business house receives an order for goods, well prepared, clear as to what is wanted, definite as to price and carriage, it takes a real pleasure in filling it, and because of its clearness time is saved to both the buyer and the seller, which to the latter at least is always money. One of the clerks came into my room a few days ago and placed before me an order which said, Please send at once Leypoldt book. These ambiguous orders from librarians are always brought to me for interpretation, and so I know the fault is not all on one side. Of course there was a question in this case as to what was wanted, and the order was filled by guesswork.

We have had business with one library aggregating five orders, in all \$7.70, for goods which cost \$5.75 without adding any charge for freight items, etc., but simply figuring the actual material and labor involved in the manufacture. To do this business 16 letters were received and 10 answers written, mostly asking for specifications—a part of the correspondence, however, being with regard to the payment of the bills.

One of the weak places in the woman librarian's equipment is the lack of generous charity for what she considers the professional failings of others in the work. If one weak place in the armor is discovered, like a knight of old, she fastens her attention on that alone, despite the fact that there may be 50 strong points beside it, and even the weakness under the direction of its possessor may not be so glaring a fault as it appears in the eyes of the faultfinder. Think only of the good points, look for them, and do not let anyone else know that you see where the shortcomings lie, and after awhile you will not be quite sure that you ever saw them yourselves. There is room for good workers always, and water will find its level. Hunt for the good things in other people's libraries and it will not be long until the often expressed opinion of men that women in business are jealous of each other's success will die out for want of material to support it.

If there is a particular kind of library

work that you find more congenial than another, work toward reaching it, and if you are properly fitted for it, the chances of its coming to you are decidedly increased. But if you undertake to do something else, the fact of its not being your choice has no bearing on the performance of it in the very best way possible, and here comes in the question of salary. Women in business are accused, and not without cause, of slighting their work because the salary is not commensurate with the duties which they are called on to perform. Have a distinct understanding before beginning work what you are to receive for your work, then do it the very best you are able. If you find you have sufficient reason for being dissatisfied with the remuneration, speak to the proper persons about it, and then abide honorably by the decision. One has no right, by shirking her legitimate work, to cast reproach on the whole body of workers.

If you are at the head of affairs, do make it a point to tell definitely, and in good season, what those about may depend upon both as to positions and salaries. It is said that women managers are too apt to consider such things as personal matters, and are weak in dealing with them. It is just as much the right of an assistant to know definitely about these things as it is for the President of the United States to know of his term and salary.

In the correspondence which brings requests for employment, I have seen a disposition to do certain things which form the reasons of labor unions. I refer so the practice of cutting under the salary received by the majority for certain work. Librarians as a class are paid less than school-teachers, while their work is about on the same basis. This is, in a large measure, the fault of librarians themselves. They do not work on this problem in harmony, and there is still too much "influence" back of giving places. I have my doubts about sending a girl's name for a position, who is willing to work for nearly nothing, for I cannot help thinking her talents are not in demand in the market,

or else she does not intend to carry out her contract, and her work will be worth no more than she asks for it.

Librarianship is a delightful and helpful field for work to those who will rise to its possibilities, but there is no room for thoughtless, indifferent posing here as there is nowhere else. An army of noble women has done heroic work in opening the doors of the business world to their sisters, and it is a sacred obligation resting on every woman who enters those doors, to add something to the credit of the army, and it is little less than criminal to detract from the reputation so hardly earned, of being faithful, conscientious workers.

The next paper was read by Dr Wire, his subject being,

Book selection, buying, and binding

Dr Wire said that if a library is entirely new, there seems to be no limit to the lines of knowledge which are demanded, and if there is some stock of books on hand the lining up and filling out with new books is even more difficult, and in either case the money is liable to be limited. In some cases there is a sum of money to be expended on books at first. Remember first and foremost that Rome was not built in a day, that no library ever burst full-fledged on an unexpected public. What it cannot buy this year it may buy next year, or the year after, or five years hence. Here is where it differs from a private individual, for, like Tennyson's brook, it goes on forever. So don't be alarmed or discouraged because you cannot get everything at once; many things can wait. There is no book that cannot be bought a year from today at the same price that it can be had now.

As a general thing, buy the latest and freshest things first. The great demand will be for fiction. We make large concessions to this class, but they must not monopolize the fund. Then as you have opportunity, go back and buy second-hand and auction books to fill gaps. One library represented here today is 35 years old, and 20,000v. strong. Look out for the local doctor or clergyman

who tries to get his own books bought at the expense of the public. In this respect I think the clergyman will need the most watching.

Do not give the complete history of any nation that will require to be supplemented by other books. This puts too much money into bygone empires. I never knew anybody who read them, and in many libraries you will find volume 1 more or less worn, while the latter volumes have not even been cut open.

Beware of expensive books, such as Kemp's nine years to Gold Coast, \$5, etc.; and also avoid such as Busch's Bismarck, two volumes \$10, etc. These are all far too expensive for any library of 5,000v. They lock up too much of your money in one or two volumes which will be in little use. There are dozens of books on much more valuable subjects at \$1 and \$2 a volume.

The Ladies' home journal list, Wisconsin, New Hampshire, Vermont library lists, and the New York department of education lists are better than the A. L. A. lists, or its supplements, for practical use. These lists have been made by people entirely familiar with their own needs.

If you have a good local man, patronize him, but generally you had better take the largest book house accessible to you. Make your orders full and explicit as you can, giving author, edition, size, date, and publisher if possible.

Do not expect too much discount; 25 per cent is the most we can expect and get good service and reliable dealings. Remember that the book man is not an object of charity, nor yet is he a thief. Sometimes he will be obliged to raise his price on a few books, but you will generally find that he had to buy the books from others.

Do not buy cheap fiction printed from old plates on wood pulp paper. The best are not too good to stand the constant uses. It is also too much to expect the people to respect a book when it is soiled to start with. After the library is well started, and has 10,000 to 15,000v., you may safely buy vol-

umes to fill gaps, but this is not desirable to do earlier.

As a general thing, buy all you can in cloth, except very bulky works, such as Webster's International and Standard dictionaries. Beware of the agent who wants to sell you sheep for cloth, etc. You frequently get all you want out of a cloth-bound book. The linen book cloths, such as used now, give very good results for fiction. It does not pay to put too good a binding on the books, because the paper will wear out before the binding does. A good roan will do for years. Morocco is the cheapest, because it lasts so much longer. Just as soon as a library can afford to do so, I would advise them to put their volumes into morocco.

Require your books to be sewed well with linen thread, and laced.

An animated discussion followed the paper.

A protest was made against limiting the price of books to \$1.50.

Miss Haines said: I do not think we just want books, but we want good books, and I certainly do not believe in limiting books to price. Cut down Home cooking and Etiquette for women, etc., and put in the better books that are going to live. It is the study of a period that is going to live.

I think that what you will gain in Nansen's Farthest north, \$3.50, would not be a gain, for the other edition is so much better that it would be a gain to have it. The later cheaper edition is not to be compared with the other edition.

When a book is absolutely good in its own field, what if it costs a few dollars more than some others; put it in and cut down on something else.

Miss Stearns said that the time at which a book was in demand should receive more consideration than the cost of it. It was wrong to wait till a book could be had cheaper or for less money, rather than pay a little more when everybody was talking about it.

Miss Ahern said: I have come to the conclusion that it is as much the purpose and the scope of the public li-

brary to educate and elevate the taste for good bindings, good paper, good print, the clothes of good thoughts, one may say, as it is to present the good thoughts themselves. When philanthropists present public institutions with pictures, they do not get the chromos and small sheets sent around by enterprising newspapers, but they get really good pictures, even if they can have but one. The same is true in music. People are helped by hearing really good music, not by rag-time tunes.

I have heard of a library in Minnesota that had something like \$4500 to buy books. They paid \$3500 for early Americana, which they placed under lock and key, and they used the other \$1500 to supply books for something like 5000 card-holders.

This, of course, is an extreme case, but it shows that the subject of what to buy and when to buy is not yet fully developed among us.

A paper on classification by Miss Benedict, of Lewis institute, Chicago, was read by her assistant, Miss Mead. This paper will appear in full later.

This was followed by a paper from Miss Fellows of the New York State library, on

Cataloging, accessioning, and shelf-listing for small libraries

A catalog on cards is universally recognized as the only kind which can be kept up to date, and therefore as indispensable. In a small library, where printing is out of the question, the greatest legibility is obtained by the employment of the disjointed or printing hand. The important items on a card are: the call number, the author's name, the title; the imprint information, such as illustrations, place, date, etc.; and in a dictionary catalog the subject headings. The call number may not be considered exactly a part of the cataloging, but its importance on the card will justify here the statement that it should be very conspicuous. Place it where it cannot be overlooked and make it stand out by the use of colored ink.

Practice differs greatly on the forms of authors' names, but for a small li-

brary economy demands the simplest forms sufficient for easy identification, and the convenience of the users calls for those most commonly known.

There is universal agreement that the title should be as short as possible without omitting matter of value, but the cataloger is prone to forget that what is of value on one card may not be on another. The searcher under the author's name generally wishes a particular book, and the title there should include what is likely to be remembered, by which he may identify it. On the subject side one more often desires a certain kind of information, and such parts of the title should therefore be retained as will show the treatment of the subject and the scope of the work. If a book treats of two or more subjects, calling for as many cards, omit on the card for each subject, as far as grammatical wording will allow, all matter pertaining only to the others.

In the imprint the most important items are the edition, number of volumes if more than one, illustrations and maps, size, place, and date. Other matters, such as paging and publisher, may be included, but few small libraries will find it advisable. Most of these details are of less consequence in fiction than in other classes, and in this some libraries might think it wise to give only the number of volumes and the date.

If you use a dictionary catalog the choice of subject headings will try your souls, but the principal points to be observed are the exact designation of the subject, and the absolutely consistent use of the same heading for the same subject with references from synonymous terms and related subjects.

The term accessioning, in its broad sense, covers the various details connected with adding a book to the library, but is commonly used with the more limited meaning of entering in the accession book. The accession book is a record of volumes in the order received, and should give a concise but accurate description with source and cost, and under the heading Remarks, a brief history, including statements of such

matters as rebinding, and the final disposition of a book if removed from the library. A form which has given great satisfaction in small libraries is the Condensed accession book, furnished by the Library Bureau from its offices in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Washington. It provides for one, two, or five thousand entries, and costs \$1, \$3, or \$5. The printed headings of the columns for author, title, place, publisher, etc., keep before you the various details to be recorded. The entry runs across two pages, and the left-hand page bears the accession numbers in sets of 100, 25 on a page, preventing error in numbering through duplication or omission; but if for any reason you prepare a book for yourself, instead of using this you will still find the division by twenty-five's an advantage, both in the almost absolute certainty of detecting at the end of a page any mistake in numbering, and in the readiness with which a number may be found. Here, let me say, that you should insist on having everything in the way of blank-books, sheets, and cards which you obtain from a local dealer cut exactly the same size as those generally in use, in order that when in future you decide to purchase the regular supplies there may be a convenient uniformity in this respect.

In the work of accessioning it is generally conceded that a line should be given to each volume instead of making a single entry for a set. The former method is unquestionably far more satisfactory, since it permits the recording of important facts applicable to one volume but not to all, while the use of ditto marks in the case of details which are identical reduces to almost nothing the labor of repetition.

In some libraries it seems to be considered of no importance in what order the books are accessioned. Do not fall into this mistake. The necessity of entering the prices is enough to show that the order of the bill should be followed. When but few books are purchased at a time individual entries can easily be looked up, and cost supplied; but when

the library becomes large and the additions increase much time will be wasted if this method is pursued, and it is better to establish at once the rule which you will wish to follow in future.

The shelf-list is a list of the books in the order of their arrangement in the library, and its chief uses are as a means of taking inventory, to prevent the repetition of a book number in any class and as a brief class catalog. The items commonly recorded are class and book number, accession number, author and brief title. Both theory and practice vary widely as to the form of the list. Many prefer to use cards of the size for cataloging, giving a card to each work. With this system new entries can be inserted at once in their proper order, but the greatest care must be taken to prevent loss or misplacement. The strongest argument in its favor is that the list never needs to be rewritten. Other librarians prefer sheets 10x25 centimeters (about 4x10 inches), giving a sheet to a class, or in large classes, like fiction, a sheet to one letter or to one author in a class. With this method entries are made in order of shelf arrangement for the books in the library when the list is written, and additions to any class are placed on the sheet in the order of their arrival. When these latter entries become numerous it is necessary to rewrite the sheets, but this would occur at such long intervals that I am sure that the time so spent would be more than offset by that saved in consulting sheets rather than cards. At one time I was an ardent admirer of the card system, but having used it I should, at least for a small library, greatly prefer sheets, possibly making an exception for fiction and biography if the additions in these classes were large, but certainly not if they were less than 200 a year.

I will mention numerous sources from which knowledge is to be derived, but the difficulty likely to arise in combining ideas so gained is that of making them harmonize. It may therefore not be out of place to give one final direction; in mixing the ideas, do as the

painter said he did with his colors, mix them with brains.

Miss Fellows' paper closed with a descriptive list of the best sources for obtaining knowledge on the subjects treated above. Briefly the list was as follows:

Cutter's Rules for a dictionary catalog. The fullest and best work on the subject.

The A. L. A. List of subject headings.

Two small catalogs, specimens of excellent work, the Osterhout free library catalog, Wilkes Barre, Pa., price \$1, and the A. L. A. Library of five thousand volumes, furnished free by the U. S. Bureau of education.

Papers prepared by the World's Fair Library congress furnished free by the U. S. bureau of education.

Library journal, New York, price \$5 a year.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES, Chicago, price \$1 a year.

The Simplified library school rules, \$1.25; Library Bureau. A most excellent work.

The Denver Public library handbook, and Hints to small libraries, by Miss Plummer.

The Library primer, published by the Library Bureau.

The College section

Dr. E. C. Richardson, Chairman

The College section spent the afternoon discussing the subject of

Classification for college libraries

The lead was made by Miss Jones, of the university of Ohio library. Miss Jones said in part:

In all the voluminous discussion of classification next to nothing has been said about the necessity of libraries of different character arranging their books according to their special needs; but it is not strange that this has been so. The library movement has been mainly a public library movement. The one thought has been to popularize the library, to bring the book to the people, the people to the book, and as a means to this end classification is not of the most importance. In a public library,

providing the books are classified accurately, the sequence of the different classes of books is not a matter of great moment; but there is a great difference between the ideal college library and the public library. The college library must be an active force in the educational policy of the schools with which it is connected. It is a laboratory, and looked at, in that light it must consider the arrangement of the different classes of books on its shelves one of its most important problems. A classification specially fitted to meet college problems is needed by a college library, and none of the systems devised up to this time have been made with that end in view. Some colleges have devised classifications of their own. It is only necessary to mention Harvard, Cornell, and the university of California to call to mind what good work each one has done for itself. Other college libraries have nominally, at least, adopted one of the well-known systems of classification. There are, however, few instances of an up-to-date librarian, who at the same time was closely in touch with educational work, who followed closely either the Decimal classification or the Expansive classification.

(Several instances were here given of libraries which were supposed to use the Decimal or the Expansive classification, but where either the changes were so great that the original system could scarcely be recognized, or, if used as printed, was not satisfactory to the faculty of the school with which the library was connected.)

A classification for a college library must be discussed from a standpoint of the professor as well as of the librarian. Looked at from his standpoint, in arranging the books of a library those classes which the instructor needs to have at hand when presenting the literature of a subject should be shelved near each other. This is seen especially in the seminary and department libraries, and as a matter of fact these books are gathered together no matter how they have been classified and how marked. A rather amusing and con-

fusing sight was a department library in a school whose books were classified by the D. C. It was the library of chemistry, and the books which ought to have been there were there, but the marks were a mixture of 500's and 600's, which bewildered the observer.

It may be objected that courses of instruction change from time to time, and that classes of books which could have been shelved together some years since may now, in the same institution, be shelved apart if the principle of aiding instructors is carried out. Then let it be so. Provide in the classification and notation for just such a contingency. This can be done and is now being done at Harvard. There each main class stands alone as far as notation is concerned, and if it should ever seem best to take a class up bodily and transfer it to some other department of the library, there is no numerical or alphabetical order to be disturbed. If the main classes were smaller in size and greater in number this could be even better done.

But it was not the intention of this paper to propose a scheme for classifying a college library. That will be developed, it is hoped, in the discussion that will follow. In opening the discussion it was desired first to show that at present there existed no classification which was found satisfactory when working out the practical problems of a college library, and, secondly, it is desired to urge the College section to seriously take up the problem, and if possible to devise at least a skeleton classification which can be offered to the many colleges that are just awakening to the necessity of a live college library.

Dr Richardson, in introducing Mr Dewey, spoke of the prominence gained by American librarians in devising plans of library work, and referred to the difficulties to be overcome in bringing college professors to an appreciative understanding of library methods.

Mr Dewey said, in part, that he felt no personal interest whatever in the classification which people persisted in

calling by his name. His interest in it was as a matter of coöperation, and because 25 years' experience had proved it the most effective labor-saving tool for libraries. The criticisms made upon it were based on a total misapprehension of the proper aim of a practical classification. It was demonstrable that it was wholly impracticable to have a library classification represent the best philosophical statement of the interrelations of human knowledge up to date. Every year would require modifications and changes in such a statement, while the very nature of a library classification made it necessary to use it for a considerable period, as the expense and confusion of change would be prohibitive. The Decimal classification had won its way all over the civilized world not from its philosophic merits, but because it was recognized as a kind of intellectual system of pigeonholes, conveniently arranged and numbered so that the librarian and his assistants and their successors would, for a series of years, put a book or pamphlet on the same subject into the same pigeonhole, and that his readers and their successors could readily go to that same pigeonhole when they wished to see the material on that subject. This was 99 per cent of the proper work of a classification, and the experience of intelligent and sympathetic users had in hundreds of cases proved the efficiency and economy of the decimal system. Criticisms were inevitable on any method, but they had no force with intelligent men if they came from people who lacked either sympathy or full knowledge of the system. It was like an eloquent demonstration from one or more men of the impracticability of riding a bicycle because he had tried it and found it could not be done. Such statements in the face of common experience have no effect in shaking the confidence of intelligent people in the merit of the machine. They simply show that the individual concerned has some peculiarity that prevented his utilizing the mechanism.

C. A. Cutter, librarian of Forbes' library, was then called upon to discuss the Suitability of the expansive classification. He said:

In theory, classification and notation are two entirely different things, but in practice they are married; so that it is not altogether an Irish bull to say that the better half of expansive classification is the notation that accompanies it. That notation is simple, short, elastic, and correspondent. People who know nothing of expansive classification talk to me of the superior simplicity of the decimal notation. It strikes me that the boot is on the other leg.

I have been amused by hearing people say that figures are more easily remembered than letters. I ask them which they find easier to remember, the initials of their friend's name or the number of his house? Some say one and some the other. The fact is, a man remembers easily what he uses constantly. If he addresses many letters to the headquarters of the Library Bureau, the number 530 sticks in his memory in connection with it.

Of course I cannot in my 15 or 20 minutes show you much of the classification. I must confine myself to one example, electricity. In my first sketch of the B. A. system, that subject had five divisions; in my present schedule it has 50. Luckily, although in 1880 the pervasion of all modern life by electricity was only dreamed of, I assigned to it in the group of Useful arts, R five 2d, letters Rt, Ru, Rv, Rw, Rx, and this, with the potent aid of the alphabet, will afford room for a wide development, provided one starts with a judicious distribution of parts.

And here let me remark that the minuteness of one's classifications does not show itself to the public by the marks on the backs of the books, to which one would pay no attention, but to the labels on the shelves. If, for instance, you have only half a shelf full of domestic economy, but in view of those likely to be added think it wise to adopt 12 subdivisions, of which perhaps seven are represented by the pres-

ent stock, you only put on one label, Domestic economy. The shelf-going patron sees this, and only this. As he looks over the books he doesn't notice or care for their order, and so he is not troubled by any complexity.

There are two opposite tendencies in classifiers, which, for want of a better title, I may call the one a tendency toward the abstract and general, the other, a tendency toward the concrete and individual. The first divides everything into general subject, or form classes, like philosophy and theology, and scatters all that relates to individuals among these.

In conclusion Mr Cutter said: The E. C. offers to its users the notation for children, the book arts, i. e., all arts which go to the making and using of books, from authorship through writing, printing, publishing, bookselling, and up to libraries, both public and private, ending with description of bibliography and literary history.

The general discussion was conducted by W. I. Fletcher, who said:

There are too many friends of the Dewey system for me to say anything against it, but I really believe it is something on the order of a disease (contagious) that we have inherited; and now it is spreading over Europe. I think the university of California classification meets our wants very well.

You may say that some other system is good enough. We don't want good enough, we want the best, and the best we are going to have if it is possible to get it.

But, as Mr Cutter says, there is no such thing as a classification that will satisfy all; and if we attempt to change this classification within three, four, or five years, we are going to bring ourselves to ruin.

After some further discussion the meeting adjourned.

At the close of the sessions on Tuesday afternoon the Atlanta Woman's club very cordially entertained the members of the A. L. A., who called in large numbers in response to an invitation previously given.

Public meeting Tuesday p.m., at the Grand Opera house.

The curtain rose at eight o'clock and disclosed a line of entertainers seated on the stage, who bore little resemblance to the usual cast seen in such a place. Without any extended remarks the chairman, Mr Martin, introduced Mr Mitchell, who in a very appropriate address delivered a deed from the Young men's library association of the city of Atlanta to the city of Atlanta, through its mayor, conveying to it all of the property of the association, real and personal, including invested funds, for the free public circulating library purposes forever.

He said that this deed conveyed real estate valued at \$50,000, books, pictures, etc., valued at \$35,000, and invested funds, mortgages, etc., valued at \$11,500.

Mayor Woodward replied as follows:

In accepting this magnificent gift from the Young men's library association, I do so with great pleasure tinged with regret. It is a pleasure to me to know that this property is merged in a free public circulating library, for its benefits will not be circumscribed.

The Young men's library association will possibly pass away; those that have been engaged in its upbuilding will live to help carry this work along, but it will be under another name. I can see, too, in this, while the citizens of Atlanta deeply appreciate the gift of Mr Carnegie, I see in this something that has taken more than 30 years to accomplish, and men whose hair is now turning gray have spent the better part of their lives in building up this library. To them, I think, is due more lasting gratitude than for the great gift of Mr Carnegie.

Atlanta appreciates that gift; it appreciates it because it comes from a good heart. It also appreciates the honest nickels and dimes that have been contributed and worked for by the young men of Atlanta, and it is something that the people of Atlanta feel grateful for and will never forget.

And, in conclusion, I wish to say that

Atlanta welcomes you, and hopes that your stay will be pleasant, and that when you leave here, that you will look back to your visit to our city with happy remembrance.

Mr Martin then introduced John Temple Graves, of Atlanta, who delivered a formal address of welcome, which was a masterpiece of eloquence and oratory.

Mr Graves said: I am here to add the welcome of the lip to the assurance which you will have from the heart and the hand of Atlanta.

I speak here for the chairman of the local committee of reception. I speak for the board of directors of the Young men's library. I speak for the brilliant and charming librarian. I speak for the city government, and the whole body of the citizens of Atlanta with plenary rights of expansion, and the general instruction that I cannot say too much.

The audience, whose presence is a better welcome than my words, is made up by special selection from the women's clubs of Atlanta, from the various study clubs, and from the great list of the Atlanta lecture association—all pillars and props, benefactors and beneficiaries of our local library. These indeed are our walls of culture, and every man's a brick.

Ladies and gentlemen of the American Library Association, we know who you are better than you know who we are. It has been duly and deeply impressed on our minds that it is no ordinary body of men and women whom we front tonight. The dignity, the importance, and the peculiar distinction of the American Library Association is thoroughly comprehended in Atlanta. The keepers of the house of literature, the strong men of books, and they that sit in the windows of culture, are welcome.

If the distinguished appearance of the body did not proclaim its importance we should safely fashion our respect upon your exceptional walk and conversation.

We mingle much reverence with great

cordiality, and we are prepared to say without strain that this southern city of conventions, rich in golden memories of great assemblies, has never gathered within its gates a representative body which enshrines a nobler average of brains, of culture, and of high responsibility.

I do not need to tell this brilliant company that the city for which I speak is a notable and wonderful city. Its life, its growth, its vitality, its individual mentality, written in a hundred historic enterprises, and crystallizing a progressive and representative public opinion, have long since impressed the republic and the world. You will, I am sure, pardon me for the swelling satisfaction with which I record our local and absolutely impartial judgment, that Atlanta is the brightest and most intellectual city of its size in the republic. This must be true. Great lecturers have told us so. Great conventions have said so. Our politicians invariably say so. The stranger within our gates has ever flattered us with the fine assurance, and if you, and your wisdom, discover a flaw in this flattering proposition we ask you in simple kindness to keep it loyally and permanently to yourselves.

In the formation and pioneer days of Atlanta all things social, political and industrial revolved about the library. The freshness and glow of Henry Grady's young enthusiasm were spent in its directory. The most brilliant articles that have ever adorned the columns of our local newspapers were written of this young library and of the men who made it, and in the stirring history of this historic town it is the simple truth to say that the packhorse of materialism has always followed solidly and humbly behind this thoroughbred of culture.

There has never been a time when books were not the fashion in Atlanta. We have always put our best blue ribbon on intelligence. There is something in the elixir of this incomparable air, something in the ozone of these hills of Georgia, that stimulates every brain to activity, and books, as the en-

voys of achievement, have always occupied a throne.

Up to this period our equipment has been comparatively scant. We have been too poor and too busy in the material rebuilding of the south to rival the splendid expenditures of the sections older and richer that did not suffer by the waste of war.

We have used what we had with diligence and increasing zeal. In the progressive influence of this Young men's library, every year has marked a distinct and steady development in the quantity and quality of reading. The library has been the refuge and resort of the student, the thinker, the literary and professional worker of both sexes. The chairs have never been empty and the interest never on the wane. Study clubs have grown out of it. Women's clubs have been prospered by it. The greatest lecture association in the south has been nourished by it. Within the administration of the present librarian the percentage of fiction read has decreased 25 per cent in favor of the more solid form of literature.

There are a thousand things which we hope to learn from this convention, but the one thing which we have already learned is the love of our library and the loyalty to books; and if your keen eyes will look closely you will soon discover that the new idol of this people is a Henry Grady in petticoats—the girl in the pink shirt waist, who presides in this department, captures conventions by her eloquence and tact, and is far and away the most popular citizen of either sex in all Atlanta.

Mr Lane, president of the association, responded to the address of welcome as follows:

I wish I could find words adequately and fitly to express the gratitude which we feel for the warm welcome which you have given us, for the kind way in which you have welcomed us, and for the welcome the mayor has spoken; for the very hospitable welcome which all of the people of Atlanta whom we have met, and many others whom we hope to meet, have given us. I think it has

never been the good fortune of the American Library Association before to be present in a city when such interesting library functions were discussed, and to witness a ceremony such as we have witnessed this evening, by which the generosity of a capitalist, and the public spirit of the society, has united to insure forever a splendid library in Atlanta. I think, too, that the American Library Association has never been honored by so large a company from the city in which it has met. We have met all over the land, but never has so large and so enthusiastic a company come to one of our sessions, and that is good evidence of the correctness and exactness of what you have said in regard to the character of the city of Atlanta.

We shall go home fully convinced that you are entirely right. We have come to you from all over the country, from Maine, California, and I suppose from every state in the union. We are all immensely interested in libraries. It is our work. We believe that the library has a mission, and we never want to leave a city until everyone in it is thoroughly interested with ourselves. For that reason we are glad that you have come here tonight that we may have a chance, through some of our members, to speak to you in regard to some of the matters in which we are interested. It is not my object—it can be done much more efficiently by others—and I shall have the pleasure of introducing to you one who has done more than any man in America to stir interest in library achievement and to direct its course—Melvil Dewey, of the State library of New York.

Mr Dewey's subject was

What a library should be and what it can do

Mr Dewey said: Atlanta has been known long in this country as a southern city that believes supremely that education pays, and as the revelation has come late in this century of what the library is or should be, and what the library can do, on this line I will say a few words to you tonight.

We have had an illustration in the recent war with Spain that education pays, in what it means to have the man behind the guns trained. We have an illustration in Mr Carnegie's work, whose name has been mentioned here in his competition with the rest of the world, illustrating another peculiar American feature that American education pays in dollars and cents; but it is a more recent conception of the part the library has in a system of public education. It took a thousand years to develop our educational system from the university down; first the university as the beginning of all education, and then we must have the colleges to prepare for the universities, the academies and common schools to prepare for the colleges, and it is only in our own generation that we have come to understand that we must begin with the kindergarten and end in our libraries.

I am really pleased tonight that the Young men's association has done this generous work, and that Atlanta is going to pay the money from the taxes. It would be no advantage to this city if your schools were provided for you without charge to the people. Those who study the question from the low plane of dollars and cents, without regard to the higher things in life, have learned that no investment pays so well. In many a community men are giving liberally to the schools, and are beginning to give liberally to the libraries, and they do it because they know it makes everything more valuable—it makes their business more prosperous.

The library is going through the same process the public school went through. Henry Barnard, of Connecticut, visited 27 different states and spoke before them to urge upon them the system of public education, and to provide a guidance for the children.

It is true that the educated parents are more likely to have children educated highly, but there is no question whatever that the great majority of the men and women who are to shape the

future of this country will be born in the humblest homes, and we come back to the problem of the general education of all the people as the best possible advancement and the chiefest defense of the nations; it is the concern of the state because it is the duty of the state, because it pays, and because the state does not dare any longer to neglect it. Therefore I call your attention to the fact that we are repeating in libraries exactly the process of the school, and that there were meetings to urge the acceptance of them. There are few who doubt the wisdom of donating money to support the free library, and when the history of the time is written it will be marked as the history of free libraries.

Why is it that the people are taxing themselves erecting beautiful buildings, buying books, paying salaries, printing catalogs, incurring all these expenses, paying out an amount of money that a short time ago would have been thought only a dream? It is a recognition of its necessity and importance. We understand that it is a good thing.

A broad conception at the end of the century of the work of the schools is simply this, to teach the children to think accurately, with strength and with speed. If it is in the school that they get their start, then where do they get their education? Tell me from your own experience, was it from the school that you got most of your ideas? We had an experiment some time ago, when the teachers of New York made an elaborate investigation as to the teaching of boys and girls. The thing that influenced those boys and girls most was the books they read. What, after all, is the supreme end of education? I state that we should teach them to think with accuracy and with speed, but I doubt if there is one who denies the supreme necessity of the building of character. That is what is winning in the peaceful conflicts of commerce. If you care to analyze how character is built, follow it back briefly. Charac-

ter comes from habits, and habits from actions repeated, and actions from a motive, and a motive from reflection. What makes me reflect? What makes you reflect? What is the cause? Isn't it something that you have read in a book, a magazine, or a paper? So the genealogy is this: reading begets reflection, reflection begets motive, motive begets action, and action begets habit, and habit begets that supreme thing—character. So we have come to recognize that if we are to accomplish the chief end that is before the people, we must strive to control the reading for others.

Reading sometimes carries downhill, as it often carries upward, and there is no way that we can reach the people except through the free library and with proper help from the people.

What Atlanta wants to make out of her citizens is not to train privates, but to train officers. If you go out on the streets you can find a thousand men to do the work of a laborer, where you can find only a few to do the work that will demand five or ten thousand dollars. The world is looking for that class of men. It is the highest salaried man that is the hardest to find. If you would buy a machine, there enters into it the material that is in it; the process of manufacture throughout which has transformed it, and then the approved fitness for performing its functions. The same way with a man—the native that is manufactured; then comes the experience which proves the fitness for his work; and you pay the salary for these things. And by means of our schools and libraries we must reach these girls and boys.

Thomas Edison and other great men say that their whole lives are governed from reading a single book. So the province of the library is to amuse, to inform and inspire. We have the old proverbs, As free as air; As free as water; but the new one that is important to the race is, As free as knowledge. The people of this state cannot afford to have any boy in Georgia who is anxious to know more,

how to make his life more valuable, who wants inspiration and is ready to read, and not furnish it to him. Education is the chief concern of the American people, and the states that have done most for their education have been the most prosperous.

It is the concern of the richest as to what should be done for the poorest; you should provide free schools and free libraries, or the failure to do so will react in your own lives. If you say that this ideal is too high, that the library has important functions, but it does not take its place as the equal of the schools, it is because you have not studied this question in all its details. When you do, you will be forced to the conclusion that we must recognize education hereafter. If you say that this is the inspiration of a dreamer, remember that it is the devotion of noble minds that never falters, but endures and waits for all it can find, and what it cannot find, creates.

Mr Dewey was followed by F. A. Hutchins, secretary of Wisconsin library commission, on Traveling libraries.

Mr Hutchins said that every patriotic citizen feels the thrill of hope and pride as he watches the establishment of great public libraries in the great cities of the United States. That magnificent buildings are being erected to house great collections of books for the use of the residents of the great cities. Men noted for business sagacity and for patriotism are giving not only large sums of money, but they are giving their time and their strength to the development of these libraries. Trained and skillful librarians are using every effort in their power not only to make vast collections of books, and to make them useful to the students, but to win people to come to their libraries and to use them.

Out through the cities they are feeling day and night for the desolate and destitute boys to bring them within the power and influence of books. Through these children they are sending to the homes the great books which make boys and girls, men and women, better.

These magnificent buildings, these great collections of books, this great enthusiasm and service seems for years to have been given to the people of the cities, but what of the boys and girls who live in the sod houses on the prairies of the west? Who has thought of the boys and girls and the men and women in the country districts of the Cumberlands? Who has thought of the people living in the lumber camps of Maine and Minnesota? Who has thought of the little hamlets on the railways where the boys spend their time in loafing? Who thought to make this great collection of books useful to our friends, our brothers and sisters who live beyond these great influences and centers of culture?

The problem has been stirring thoughtful people for months, but you can see it is a difficult one to answer.

We cannot get them to these great libraries. We cannot give them these great collections of books. How shall we give them books that will help them? How shall we put their reading under the control of people who know the books that will profit and cheer and help.

Seven years ago Mr Dewey, in the state of New York, found the answer. On Feb. 8, 1893, he sent out the first traveling library to show the people beyond the influence of the great libraries the usefulness and helpfulness of books. What a wonderful idea it was. Why has it not been done before? The idea was so winning, and it appealed so strongly to the people, that in May, 1898, instead of one library in the United States with a hundred books, there were 1650 traveling libraries with 73,000v. Today in the United States there are nearly 2500 traveling libraries with over 110,000v. helping these people in the country districts; and it is not only in the United States that these libraries are helping the people in the outlying districts, in New Zealand, in British Columbia, in Ontario they have traveling libraries. Surely there must be something wonderfully winning and

wonderfully attractive in the benevolent thought that has taken to itself the wings of morning and flown to the uttermost parts of the earth. Why is it that this thought appeals so to people? Why is it that the women's clubs are sending out these libraries? Why is it that normal schools are sending them out to committees, or why is it that the women of New Jersey are sending them to the life stations? Why is it that everywhere when the people learn a bit of usefulness they are anxious to send out to their neighbors and their friends these traveling libraries?

When the libraries first went out—those in the state of New York—they were purchased and arranged with the money appropriated by the state. Two years later the legislatures of Iowa and of Michigan appropriated large sums for traveling libraries within the borders of those states. A few other states have done the same, but lately Minnesota and Kansas and Indiana have given the means for these libraries. But in most of the states it has been impossible, as yet, to secure such support, and it has remained for private individuals, for normal schools and for women's clubs, to send out libraries in most of the states, and I may say here, now the traveling libraries are already in existence in 32 states of the union, and in 25 of them they are maintained by private parties.

Owing to the lateness of the hour Mr Soule, who was to have given an illustrated lecture on library buildings, was obliged to omit his address, and instead he gave views of a number of libraries, interior and exterior, and a running commentary on the same. It was intensely interesting, and everyone present wished that time could have been allowed for a more extended address.

At the close of the exercises the company proceeded to the rooms of the Capital city club, where a most graceful welcome was extended by its president, Col. McNimms, and a very delightful two hours were spent in dancing, music, and conversation.

Wednesday a.m.—General session

The discussion of the revision of the constitution had been made a special order for Wednesday a. m., and Mr Crunden reported the constitution as revised by committee after receiving the suggestions which the members had sent in.

After the subject was discussed at length, the assembly finally decided to have a corrected constitution printed, and brought before the committee at a special session to be held at nine o'clock Thursday morning, at which time the corrections would be voted upon.

The first discussion was led by S. S. Green, librarian Worcester free public library, who spoke on

How to encourage the foundation of libraries in small towns

Mr Green said in part: There are 353 towns in Massachusetts. When the library commission began its work in 1890 there were 351 towns, 105 of which had no free public libraries, and this number has been so reduced that there are now only seven towns in the commonwealth that do not enjoy the privileges of a public library. One obstacle was encountered in establishing the public libraries in Massachusetts, and that was the location where one town contained one or more villages. It will be gratifying to mention that this obstacle has been successfully removed through a suggestion made by the members of the commission. In a certain town I remember one village already had an association library. This library was situated in the town hall; a branch was placed in another village in the district schoolhouse, and in a third village another branch was placed in another public building; books kept in one village were from time to time exchanged for those kept in another. Another solution of the problem of accommodating persons of such towns, is to send boxes of books from one village to the other at regular intervals. They may also be sent to the schoolhouses, to be returned when finished. In sending these books from

one village or town to the other, or to the schoolhouse, you can avail yourselves of the wagons of butchers, mail-wagons, trolley cars (where they are in use), and thus save the expense of freight or express.

When a town wants to begin a library in Massachusetts, a single member of the commission begins to correspond with persons in that town who are expected to know about library matters. He learns what books are already accessible; also studies the tastes of the people; then in an intelligent way begins to select \$100 worth of books as provided by law. In time this lot is gradually added to, until the library has taken on immense proportions.

There is one other small matter of which I wish to speak. It is this: You must bear in mind that there is a difference in the feeling of the people in the different states of the union. We will take, for example, New York state. The libraries and educational institutions of that state agree to certain things when they are organized, and they are established under the law of New York, and that law exercises a certain amount of supervision. Now such a thing would not be tolerated in Massachusetts. The little towns there are jealous of their rights, and wish to control educational and library matters themselves, and do not wish to be dictated to. There is a law in Massachusetts which compels an appropriation of \$3 per head for all children of a certain age in a town, this amount to be used by the schools for the education of all the children. While this is a law, yet it is a needless one; for while \$3 per head for children is all that is compulsory, there is only one town in the state (Cayhead, a little town populated by the Indians,) that doesn't pay more than \$3 a head. The average amount given by the towns of Massachusetts is about \$17.88 a head for all their children.

Miss Stearns, of Wisconsin, gave an interesting talk on How to organize library commissions. She referred to

the great difficulty of getting bills for libraries passed in the legislature. Such bills have small attraction for lawmakers. The south and west are not yet ready for compulsory libraries, where good libraries are looked on as unnecessary luxuries. Instead of the state giving money, every six months a box of books should be sent to the libraries. This fresh supply coming from time to time would act as a stimulus to library work. It is not the few great libraries, but the many small ones, that do the most good.

She suggested that besides sending the books, that lectures should be delivered, meetings held, and circulars sent in the interest of the small library. All such work would awaken great enthusiasm.

F. A. Hutchins, secretary of the Wisconsin library commission, talked on

The uses of, and how to start, a traveling library

He said: The first thing necessary for the traveling library is good books. If you wish to kill all the interest in traveling libraries send out old books to the untrained readers. To get a lot of old books and pack them in an old cracker box and send out among persons who have no interest in them, and to let the books be squandered and wasted, is to destroy the little interest which might have existed in that community. A traveling library should go from a first-class library, and systems should be worked up. The next thing to do is to select some person to assume charge of the books. Send the library to some one who is interested in books. Do not send them to some one who has so much else to see after that he has no time to spend with them, or to some one who is crabbed and cross—they keep the persons who would like to come, away.

Mrs E. B. Heard, of Georgia, who has done so much for the rural districts of that state, was called on by Pres. Lane, and gave a very interesting account of the work she is doing for the Seaboard air line in establishing small village libraries.

Eliza G. Browning, of Indianapolis, gave a very interesting account of the development of library interest and the appointment of a library commission, as well as the establishment of a system of traveling libraries, through the zeal and perseverance of the clubs of Indiana. Miss Browning thought there was no limit to the aid which the clubs might lend the library, provided they were brought into proper relation with it in coöperative work.

The discussion of How to plan a library building was to have been conducted by H. M. Utley, of Detroit, but owing to the absence of Mr Utley this discussion was omitted.

Miss Hewins, of Hartford public library, offered some valuable suggestions on How to make a library attractive. In opening the discussion Miss Hewins said: In New York there stands an old brown stone mansion, upon whose walls the sun seldom shines, and upon whose stairs the noise of children's feet is never heard. Up three flights of stairs a door opens near the landing. Passing through this door we enter into the library. The shelves are filled with books, and in all there is something homelike about the surroundings that appeals to the lover of solitude with a good book.

There are various ways in which a library may be made attractive. A red rocking-chair and bright rug, and a student's lamp upon a table, give it the aspect of home. Sunshine in winter, shade in summer, and a few flowers that are in season, with their names printed on small cards, serve to attract one. If some of your members are studying art, the lives of their forefathers will be found in Harper's bazaar. It is a good thing to get up the records of distinguished authors, etc.

Another thing. Let the librarian announce that on a certain afternoon she will read a story, and let her neighbors come over and bring their work. Let her read it without comment, simply the story; nothing more. Let everything seem cheerful and homelike, for these are invaluable attractions.

The barbecue

Wednesday afternoon was devoted to local entertainment at the Cold Springs 'Cue club, where for a majority of the party an unique experience was in store. A barbecue had been prepared, and under shelter the large company sat down to enjoy the "shote and sauce" provided. It was a very merry company, and the entertainment offered was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present. A negro band, The lard can quartette, was the wonder of all and the admiration of many as they listened to the different melodies and coon songs, which were well rewarded with showers of silver. Many a spectator is yet wondering how the boy produced so nearly the tones of a bass viol by blowing on the edge of the huge lard can. Miss Wallace kept her promise of 1898 by having present a limber son of Africa, who gave a striking example of a "sho' nuff coon dance." The most enjoyable event was the monologue of Mrs M. V. Moore, "Betsey Hamilton," who gave a representation of a lazy wench's efforts to catch a chicken for the "cump'ny dinnah." Several after-dinner speeches were made by those present, and after the party had been photographed on the hillside the cars were boarded. All returned to Atlanta, refreshed in mind at least, to take up again the consideration of more serious questions.

Wednesday evening—The College and reference section

The meeting was opened by the discussion of Coöperation in lending by Dr E. C. Richardson, of Princeton university, who spoke as follows:

It is a matter of common observation that with the present limited facilities for our American libraries, students, whether dependent on college libraries or on general reference libraries, are constantly in lack of the books which they want for their work. The greatest handicap comes from the fact that the majority of books cannot even be found in America, the next from the difficulty of finding where in America such books as there are, are located.

There are four practical methods by which coöperation may come in to ameliorate this situation, and these may be described as cataloging, purchase, specialization, and lending.

First of all, let us try to get at a realization of the situation by the analysis of a definite list of books, for which we happily have the material at hand in the library check list of Bolton's Catalog of scientific periodicals.

In Bolton's list there are 8600 periodicals mentioned. Of 5440 of these there is no copy known in this country; of the remaining 3160, 1153 have but one copy, 521 have two copies, 397 three, and the remaining 1179 have more than three copies. Of the 3160 periodicals Harvard has 919 and Columbia 791. That is to say, of existing periodicals nearly two-thirds are not to be found in this country at all, one-third of the remainder are represented in this country by a single copy, and another third by not more than three. What shall we do about it? Shall 500 colleges continue in an indiscriminate way to struggle toward an ideal 8600 periodicals, all of which some one will want some time, but not one in 20 of which some of them will want once in 20 years, or shall we look forward to some sort of coöperation, and the sooner the better?

Finally, and for the benefit of those members of our association who look at the matter from the standpoint of the dealer, let me say that this need in no wise reduce the business or the profits of the book dealer. American libraries for a long time to come are going to use with eagerness every dollar they can get for the purchase of books. This plan will merely save the dealer a good deal of trouble in hunting up the unnecessary copies of rare sets, while not reducing the volume of his business in the least.

G. F. Danforth, librarian of the Indiana university, spoke on the Small college libraries of the middle west, and said in part: The majority of the college libraries in the west are small ones, and if the eastern libraries would give us assistance it would be of great benefit,

and would be received gratefully by the smaller libraries.

I have sent inquiries all over the state of Indiana to college libraries, asking for information in regard to the method of borrowing. I received many different replies from different ones. From one I received the following: We have a very fine library for our own use, and we permit others to look at it, that's all. Another says this: We have ample funds with which to furnish our own library and do not need to adopt the borrowing method.

Now the chief difficulty lies in the fact that the people do not understand exactly what we mean by this method. When we write for assistance in lending books they seem to think that when they lend them they also are expected to borrow them, and as they pride themselves on their own libraries we received replies similar to the last one read.

I feel that this point is all that is necessary by way of further discussion of the subject.

A summary of the discussion of the Library in the small college, by Prof. George T. Little, Bowdoin college, Brunswick, Me., was as follows:

The small college is the institution where the most students come into closest contact with their instructors, with each other, with the educational faculties and the ideals of the place. Of such a college the library should be the center and soul. Here teachers and pupils meet on common ground as learners. Here is that subtle spirit, sympathy and helpfulness, that shuns the recitation room. This is the laboratory of the departments of history, political economy, and the several literatures.

This is the place where, in his spare moments, the student has pondered the thoughts of sages, has rejoiced in the pictures of poets, has been transported by the skill of the traveler and historian to every quarter of the globe and every period of its history. Here his casual encounters with his teachers and men of leisure and culture have led to confidential talks, friendly counsel, have

aroused noble ideas and stirred him to love of truth.

That the library of the small college can readily perform this high function these things are necessary. It should be accessible, attractive, and helpful. Accessibility involves long hours at which the library is open, free access to the book shelves, a careful and logical arrangement of the books, and a good catalog.

Attractiveness can be won in many ways, but the most efficacious and reasonable lies in making such a selection of books that although free choice is encouraged, still the quality and standard for admission is so high that pleasure as well as profit follows from the mere examination of them. The best is none too good for a college library.

Helpfulness will follow if only the librarian joins the Christian's enthusiasm to the scholar's love of learning, and is tactful in winning the aid and assistance in his work of his scholarly and large hearted colleagues on the faculty, and of those cultured men of leisure who in every college town are naturally attracted toward the college library.

The discussion of Directing growth by the weeding out of books was conducted by Prof. Henry N. Bullard, who in part said:

Many of us are making it our chief business to weed out the books we consider bad, or not useful. There is no book so bad that it is not worth something in some part. Because the book is old to you it does not signify that it is the case with everyone else. I believe with Milton that it is almost as bad to kill a man as a good book.

In the weeding out of books we consider unnecessary or harmful there are three classes. 1) Books once valuable now superseded by others which cover all the points of the old and present new features also. 2) Books not in your line. 3) Books that are harmful to the youthful reader. In small libraries especial care should be taken in removing the books which are not needed.

A few of these books can be sold, others may be turned over to other libraries where that class of books is used. Others may be exchanged for books that are more desirable.

I have heard it said that as long as the literature critics are so divided in their opinions, criticising books which others commend, and hardly knowing themselves which is a good or bad book, that there will be many who will think that Ben Hur is a good book and Tom Brown an immoral one.

Wednesday evening—State and law libraries section

State and law libraries section met Wednesday, May 10, with Johnson Brigham, of Iowa, as chairman.

The State librarian's outlook was discussed by Johnson Brigham, librarian Iowa State library.

Mr Brigham outlined recent library legislation in California, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Maine, and followed with a general criticism of library policy. In his judgment the best state library board is an ex officio rather than an appointive board, the advantage being that such board is responsible only to the people, and far removed from those twin curses of the state library—personalism and partisanship. He gave as an example the Iowa board, composed of the governor, secretary of state, state superintendent, and the six members of the supreme court. He thought the state library should be the storm center of the traveling library movement, and that the state librarian should be a member, if not the head, of the library commission. He closed with a view of the state library's important place in the library movement of the twentieth century.

Melvil Dewey, director New York State library, followed, his subject being Dangers of over-organization. He said:

My topic is the danger of over-organization. I should like to add to it, of under-organization. My experience leads me to disagree somewhat with what Mr Brigham has said of organization and of ex officio trustees. There

are five or six different methods of constituting these trustees. They might elect from their own number in the ordinary method of the college and university to fill vacancies in their own number, but that would make them a close corporation, and for the functions that they have to exercise, it would probably be impracticable; but such a board would find the best men to fill vacancies. They might be elected under a general ticket, but that would put them in the direction of partisan politics, and I should deplore anything of that sort.

I think by far the best method is appointment by the governor, and confirmation by the senate. It centralizes responsibility on one man, and I think we can carry out the idea more by centering the appointment on the governor. I am in favor of the appointment by the governor, with or without the confirmation of the senate, as may be necessary in each state.

I want to say to you, ladies and gentlemen, that after ten years or more spent in a hotbed of politics, I am absolutely convinced that we can win against the politicians. I will go farther, and say that some of the strongest politicians in New York state, in my presence, remarked last winter, that the time had already come when they didn't dare to pass a bill in our legislature to which these interests were opposed. A leader of one of our great parties said: Whatever we wish to do we do not dare to pass such a bill, because the interests of the libraries are the greatest interests in our state, and our best men all over the states, who have children to educate, will resent keenly and quickly if we mix politics with these institutions. Now, as to their organization, we want to secure a high grade of unification. I want to say that the experience in the library world has shown it a mistake to make the libraries a part of the public school system. The school officers are elected to advance the interests of the schools; that is their great interest, and the libraries will get the crumbs that fall from a school

table. We shall never get the highest grade of library work until its affairs are in charge of men who will consider it the supreme thing. I am confident that this is the thing, and that we shall sustain it, that the libraries are not the subordinates of the school. They are the allies, entitled to the same consideration, to the same support, and to the same whole-soul devotion of men that have no higher interest than the institution they have to serve. We do not want but one board, and the reasons are these: There are certain important functions that cannot be performed by a legislative body. I have observed this, and the testimony is all on one side. The legislature is a body too large. It does not deal fairly with these questions. If they handle it they make mistakes. We want a board to perform certain legislative functions which cannot be satisfactorily performed by the legislature itself, and which cannot be delegated to any single officer. When you make a second board you cause not only expense and confusion, but friction. There will be a certain overlapping of functions, and your divided strength will beget only weakness, and I think we should have only one state library. The State library commission, whatever name you may call it by, the men who are controlling that should control these others also. I have no fault in our chairman's stand, that the secretary of state should control the library; but these men who are thinking about it day and night might take the library interest and carry it with unity. We cannot pick up a newspaper today but what we see the lesson of unity, and that by combination, by strength, and reducing the number of officials and of governing boards, you can improve administration and reduce expenses. You can do more with your money by union. You put all these interests together and they make each other strong. The friends stand offensive and defensive for the work to be done in librarianship if they are united. So I would plead for uni-

fication, and then on the other hand I want to plead a little the dangers of under-organization, a failure to recognize what the future is.

Now you ladies and gentlemen understand, first, how great a thing the modern library is. I venture to say that no one in this room, however farsighted he may be, sees what the library of the great future is to become. Stop and think a minute of our schools. You cannot do this work without the support of the local, the state, and the national government. You cannot maintain a system of public schools by furnishing contributions or endowments. We have learned that we must use the public press. Now we are learning the same lesson over in the libraries. Now I know, and you know, that the state libraries today are a little better than ciphers. One by one the states are beginning to fall into line. They are beginning to get out of politics. Sometimes politics has given us a splendid man or woman who is doing great work; but the state library has not recognized its function, and it has not been recognized. If a state has a state library in politics, in charge of a librarian that cannot be displaced at present, then by all means have the library commission independent, but I should have in mind the day when the state should again get control of the library.

The state library becomes practically in the very near future the library of the whole state available for all the taxpayers. The time is not distant when every home that is above the range of poverty, where every person who is living with a certain degree of comfort, will have in his house a long-distance telephone, and when every school also will be connected with the state library. The libraries have got to confine themselves to the books that these people will want to read. The thought carries with it the collection of books and catalogs, and men who are trained so that they can answer these calls. A person that understands this business thoroughly can step to

the telephone and answer your questions while you are away throughout the state. How many of you have noticed how the long distance telephones are affecting the interests of the railways? Men that a few years ago traveled from New York to Denver, or Chicago, now with the aid of the telephone can, inside of an hour, do the business that formerly took three or four days, and the expenditure of a hundred or more dollars; and this is going to reach the libraries, in which this section is interested more than any other institutions of which I know.

I have said enough here to make clear to you what I conceive to be the great things that we must recognize in the state library, and which is most important. Many years ago, when I looked over the library field I was convinced that the highest usefulness was to get the state library and the government libraries, as a means of doing that essential thing, "hitching our library wagon to a star."

The report on public documents, by Mr Henry, was prefaced with an outline of the scope and purpose of the state library.

In referring to the growth of libraries during the past ten years, Mr Henry said: Every kind of library has been improved and made more useful except the old church, or what might better be called the cathedral library, and next to the cathedral library in completely escaping the new life and zeal stands the state library. One has escaped because of the dead conservatism it represents, and the other has almost entirely escaped the power of resurrection, because of the withering and blighting influence of partisan politics, which is the bane of every institution which is supposed to represent culture or merit.

However, the state library has not wholly escaped the new life, for a few state librarians do read, and fewer still, do think, and, in some rare instances, real live librarians have got into state libraries, and I believe it fair to say that the tendency is growing, however

slowly and unsteadily. But this new zeal for good library work, as it has reached from the general body toward the state library, has failed to distinguish and to recognize what seems to me a vital distinction between the general public library and the state library. I do not wish to imply that the state library cannot accept and use new methods and new devices in library work. I do not wish to imply that the state library cannot use well-trained librarians.

I do not wish to even imply that the state library cannot associate with and improve by experience with other libraries. But I do wish to state positively that I believe the state library, as such, has a distinctive function not possessed by any other library, and not understood even by many able and zealous librarians. The public library is not a public, but a local institution, and every person, because of the proximity of his residence to that library, becomes a part owner of the library, and has a right to be heard on all questions touching its management.

The state library is distinctively not only a state institution in the sense that the university or the normal school or the school for the blind is a state institution, but beyond that it is a state office, and by this I mean to say that it is one of the administrative offices of the state.

The state library is for the state as such, as distinctively, though not so prominently, as is the office of secretary of state, auditor, or court reporter. The essential mission of the state library is to serve the state as an institution, and there is no more reason for the state library becoming a popular institution than there is for the state treasury becoming a popular institution, and there is no more reason for the citizens expecting library help from the state library, other than as reference, than there is for his borrowing money from the state treasury.

The state library must preserve the written records of the state, and all things directly and vitally relating to

the interests of the state, just as the treasury and the auditor's office must preserve the financial interests of the state. The institutional interest of the public library is a minimum interest, if it exists in any degree whatever.

The public library, while socialistic as a possession of the city, county, or township, its primary purpose is for the individual as such, and not to serve the political organization. The chief end of the public library is to serve the people individually; the chief end of the state library is to serve the state as an institution. One by its nature becomes a reference library in matters of state, and the other becomes a circulating library of popular interest on miscellaneous matters. If my distinction is the true one, and I believe it is, then there is a line of demarkation which has not been fully recognized; and unless it shall be recognized, and some present tendencies checked, our state libraries must lose their distinctive features and encroach upon ground not their own, and while failing in their distinctive mission, they must even more signally fail in their efforts to assume a popular duty.

Mr Dewey took exception to this position, claiming the state library should be the very center and source of every library movement in the state.

The lateness of the hour prevented any further discussion, and the meeting adjourned to meet the next evening.

On Thursday, at 8 p. m., State and law libraries section continued its discussions. Reports from different states were given by representatives present.

Miss Titcomb, secretary Vermont library commission, said that in 1894, when the commission first began its work, there were 27 free libraries in the state. There are 245 towns, and there are 29 other libraries, not free, supported by a subscription as a rule, and that they still have 139 towns wanting free libraries. That the library commission in Vermont was born, and died; that the organization still continues, but it is not active. Most all the little libraries which have been established

have been gratuitous, and in the older libraries the salaries are so small that they cannot accomplish the good they would wish.

Of the 84 towns in which public libraries have been established, only one was obliged to appropriate a sum as large as \$50, that \$15 is the average, and \$25 per annum is a good sum. That those libraries are very active, and where one library has been established, the adjoining village in a year or two follows suit, and that the library spirit is abroad in Vermont.

Mr Galbreath, of Ohio, said:

The state library is a convenient center for a system of state libraries. The law creating the library commission in Ohio was passed in 1895. The governor, secretary of state, and state librarian were members all ex officio. The board made its first report in 1896. The library board may expend \$1000 annually for necessary expenses in the discharge of its duties, and all sums so expended shall be paid by the state treasurer after the bills have been approved by the board. There is a great library movement in many communities in Ohio; new libraries have been established, old ones have been revived, and one county, under the direction of the school examiners, has established a library system of its own which is doing excellent work.

Mr Hutchins, of Wisconsin, said:

Our State library commission was formed in 1895. The bill which Senator Stout and others championed was introduced into the house, and was passed. After the bill had passed, the governor was somewhat slow in appointing the members, and it was not until the next winter that he appointed the two members of the commission, which he had the power to appoint. At this time Senator Stout was interested in securing some traveling libraries in his county, and he said to the members of the commission: Go on with your work; \$500 is not enough. Do what is necessary and send me the bills. After a year's work, we went before the legislature and asked them to

increase our appropriation to \$5000 a year; to give the commission an office in the capitol, and make it, in fact, one of the state departments; and to give us, in addition to the money appropriated, the right to have our printing and postage and other bills paid. They gave us \$4000. I think the reason they gave this amount was the sympathy for the traveling libraries, which they felt had been doing so much good among the farmers of the state. The free public libraries of the state have grown in number from about 30 to about twice that number, and of the 30 nearly all are doing better work than they did two years ago. The people who have contributed to help us have been the most effective agents that we could have secured in spreading the library missionary spirit through the state of Wisconsin. We have succeeded in establishing a great many libraries in small villages. A year and a half ago there were only two towns in the state of Wisconsin that had free public libraries established under the state law. Today we have 20, and they will be established as rapidly as the officers of the commission can go to them, and aid them in starting wisely.

Miss Thayer, representing Illinois, said that it was their object to make theirs one of the best reference libraries in the country. The library commissioners consist of the governor, secretary of state and superintendent of public instruction. The secretary of state is the chairman of the board of commissioners. A change in the board is made with every new administration.

Johnson Brigham moved that the secretary, Miss Stearns, be made president of the section for the coming year, and the motion was carried.

Miss Titcomb, of Vermont, was made secretary.

On motion the session then adjourned.

Eighth session

The general session on Thursday morning was devoted to topics of a bibliographical value, and to questions in-

teresting particularly large libraries or collections.

The report of Dr Richardson for the coöperative committee presented the need of some plan of lending books between libraries, and showed the value of such a course. In connection therewith attention was called to the scheme of the New England educational league for free transit through the mails of books by public libraries, and commendation of the plan expressed.

Dr Cyrus Adler, of the Smithsonian institute, gave a report of the conference on the International catalog of scientific literature, following which a resolution asking congress for an appropriation to enable the United States' representatives to carry on their part of the work was passed. A committee was continued.

The reports on Prison and home libraries in Chicago, and on Coöperative work at the university of Illinois, were, on request, placed in the hands of the recorder without reading.

Frederick J. Teggart, librarian Mechanics' institute, San Francisco, gave a plan for a handbook of American libraries. After calling attention to the work that had been done to distribute information about libraries in America, and the scarcity of knowledge of them which still existed, Mr Teggart said: A library handbook should contain briefly all publications made by the library, as well as those made about it, and I wish to especially emphasize the last thought, and that is, that no publication in reference to the library should ever be omitted from the handbook.

The State library of California has already started such a book, and at the time I was there, was preparing to place it in the hands of the printer. I need not demonstrate, I suppose, how much assistance a book of this kind will be to all.

I would recommend that the A. L. A. adopt such a book for American libraries, and would further recommend that a committee be appointed by the executive board to take this work in

hand, and to arrange such a book if they think advisable.

This recommendation was put in the form of a motion, which was duly seconded and carried.

The discussion on the Revision of the constitution was then opened, and it was decided that whatever action was taken by the assembly should be the sense of the A. L. A.

The following are the points which were discussed, together with the decisions on each:

1 Shall the committee recognize affiliated societies? No.

2 Shall the council have the management of the business affairs of the association, not including elections? Yes.

3 Shall the council designate the places of meeting? Yes.

4 Shall the council be permitted to present a ticket at the election, recommending the election of an officer? Yes.

5 Shall the constitution be changed, making the president ineligible for immediate reelection? No.

6 Shall the acting vice-president succeed the president in the event of a vacancy? Yes.

7 Will the association decide to adopt the decisions of the committee at this session, and finally approve them at the next session? Yes.

The matter being thus disposed of, the discussion of the program was resumed.

C. W. Andrews, of the John Crerar library of Chicago, next read a paper on

Co-operative lists of serials

The first part of the paper consisted of a bibliographical list prepared by A. G. S. Josephson, cataloger of the John Crerar library, showing some 16 such publications, of which three have appeared in second editions, making a total of 19 entries.

The list began with that of the Royal institute of Lombardy and other public establishments of Milan in 1864, and ended with the very complete list of Austrian libraries of 1898, and referred

to two or three important lists now in course of preparation.

In regard to the methods of securing the best results in such lists, Mr Andrews was of the opinion that coöperation must be limited strictly to the first preparation of the material. The editing and publication should be entrusted either to a single institution or individual, or to a very small committee.

The most important question is that of the limit of the field to be covered by such lists. The obvious advice is undoubtedly the correct one, viz., to make the lists as full and as comprehensive as the means at command will allow.

The opinion was expressed that to limit the list to publications currently received, excluding those no longer subscribed for and those no longer published, would be to limit the usefulness of the list much more than justified by the saving in cost.

National, state, and municipal reports should be included if possible, but other purely administrative reports are more questionable. Entries of the latter may well be confined to the locality in which the list is published, and while the ideal fullness of entry would be to get the exact holdings of each institution, and if these are many this would seriously increase the cost, and some compromise probably would be made. That adopted by the Chicago library club was suggested as worthy of consideration. (If one or more libraries have complete sets of serials these are given first; and then the libraries having incomplete sets, with the beginning and end of their sets, without specification of the imperfections. If, however, any library has a complete set, the most nearly complete is given in detail, and the complementary volumes in other libraries are brought out.)

In conclusion, the desirability of having such lists set up in such a way as to permit either of new editions or cumulative supplements at short intervals, was suggested.

The plan for a coöperative list of incunabula was discussed by John Thom-

son, who condensed his treatment of it as the time remaining was short. In part he said: That it is of great importance that a list of certain incunabula be in the hands of every person interested in literary and library work, there is no doubt.

That incunabula form a valuable part of any library or literary equipment is fully demonstrated when we see in how many libraries, public and private, many of these are found. I have placed myself in communication with different libraries and institutions, and also with owners of private libraries, relative to the point on which I wish to ask for your assistance. I want to ask as a personal favor, that every librarian that knows where any incunabula may be found will take the trouble to forward the name and address of the library containing them to the Free library in Philadelphia, so the committee which is getting together information on the subject may have access to it. I believe that a very important coöperative work will be carried out in this way.

In discussing this subject, Dr Billings suggests that we at once prepare a mimeograph copy of the incunabula listed already. This I shall do as soon as the convention closes, and will send copies to all who will be kind enough to send me their names and addresses.

Mr Scott, who was to have presented the paper on Cheap book postage, not being present, his paper was ordered printed without reading.

W: Beer, of New Orleans, read a report on Aids and guides, which was well received.

Mr Whitney, of the Boston public library, gave the results of an exhaustive study of printed library catalogs. It was a comparative statement, showing the cost in time and money, and the extent of the catalogs in the British museum, Peabody institute, Surgeon-general's office, and others.

Mr Whitney's study was made with a view of preparing a printed catalog for the Boston public library. The usefulness of such a catalog was weighed

against the expense and work of preparing it. The vast number of entries would fill at least 30 volumes of 1000 pages each, while the rate at which the material in the Boston public library increases would allow no limit to be placed on its final extent. Considering the amount of material on hand at present, it would require 16 years to prepare such a catalog, which would cost \$200,000.

These things added to the number of assistants required to prepare this material, the length of time it would take to publish it, and the great extent to which it would always be behind, had counted against its preparation.

After thoroughly investigating the subject, the trustees had abandoned the idea of printing a catalog for the Boston public library.

Dr Friedenwald, of the Library of Congress, gave an account of the St Gall conference upon the preservation and repairing of ancient manuscript. Dr Friedenwald said that many of the most valuable and rarest of old manuscripts are decaying, and thus becoming illegible, and he suggested photography as a method of securing these treasures for other ages.

Mr Cutter's suggestions on purchase, care, and lending of photographs was not read for lack of time, and the meeting adjourned.

Thursday afternoon

At two o'clock the entire party of librarians was taken in charge by Atlanta hosts, and placed aboard trolley cars, which proceeded to make the circuit of the city and bring to view the interesting places in and about this very interesting city. About five o'clock the party was set down at the beautiful grounds and clubhouse of the Piedmont driving club. This is the site of the exposition held in Atlanta in 1895, and many of the picturesque buildings then erected are still standing. Most gracious hospitality was dispensed by the hosts of the occasion, and besides a most liberal supply of refreshments, solid and fluid, there followed a feast of reason and a

flow of soul. A most entertaining feature was the impersonation of "a Georgia cracker," or the old woman of the hills as she told her woes, given by Mrs Moore in costume. Short speeches, witty and to the point, were made by Mr Putnam for the librarians, and by the president of the Piedmont club for the hosts. Mrs Rebecca Lowe, president of the National federation of women's clubs, made a short address in which it was plain to see how she had captured the Denver convention. In the dusk of the short southern twilight the party returned to the Kimball, delighted with the afternoon's entertainment.

Thursday night, May 11

Two sections were again in session and many of the librarians, in despair of hearing the good things prepared for both, did not hear either. In the Elementary section, Dr Wire in charge, Library administration was the theme. Organization was the first topic presented by Dr Wire. He made the strong point that time and money would both be saved by having someone familiar with library methods start the library machinery and start it properly. Do not put all the money into books, but have sufficient appliances and material to do the work of serving the public quietly and easily. Interest all classes in the library, make them feel an ownership in it, and particularly look after the schools and clubs.

Miss Lindsay, librarian of Evanston, Ill., presented a very interesting discussion of methods of

Changing a subscription library to a free library

Miss Lindsay said in part:

The day of the subscription or proprietary library is well-nigh past, except as a means to a greater end—that of establishing its successor, the free public library.

To quote C. A. Cutter: In this country the proprietary library was the parent of the public library, and as is said to be the custom among some savage tribes, the son when grown up has devoured his father.

The faithful work which was done in the years past by the supporters of the subscription library has not been lost, but lives in the great public libraries of today, which stand as worthy monuments of their predecessors.

In many parts of our country subscription libraries still exist, but they are rapidly yielding to the broader educational spirit, which seeks to place the library, equally with the public school, within the reach of the masses.

In most places where this spirit is properly manifested, the subscription library is glad to turn over its property to form the nucleus of a free public library. It is encouraging to note how few are the cases where these libraries hold out against such change, but where such opposition does exist, it is usually overcome sooner or later by public sentiment, for the unendowed subscription library is easily forced to the wall by a library which offers free to all a supply of good books and reasonable access to its shelves.

In providing free reading to the public the best success has not been attained by the various methods employed by private enterprise, such as endowment, or temporary endowment by support pledged for a certain period of years. The various methods of state aid, either directly or by legislation authorizing cities and towns to tax themselves for support of free libraries, are conceded to be the best. In most of the states such laws exist, many authorizing a direct tax to be used exclusively for establishing and maintaining public libraries, and some subsidizing the public schools, giving them the requisite assistance in establishing and carrying on free libraries.

Briefly as to a few general principles, conceding that the free library, to be supported adequately for the use of the people, must be supported by the tax of the people:

1 The state must have a library law, providing for the incorporation of a library to be supported by the people, and providing for such library to receive real and personal property for

purposes of the library. The Illinois library law is cited as being a liberal example of such law. The essential points of this law are as follows: The power of initiative in starting a public library is vested in the city council in case of incorporated cities, and does not rest with the vote of the people. In case of town, village, or township the question may be submitted to vote upon petition of 50 legal voters. The maximum tax is 2 mills for cities of less than 100,000 inhabitants, $\frac{1}{2}$ mill in cities of over 100,000 inhabitants. The tax is permissive not mandatory, the law reading, *May* levy a tax, etc.

The control of the library funds is given to the board of directors of the library, provided that all moneys received for such library be drawn upon by the proper officers of said city, upon the proper authenticated vouchers of the library board.

The law provides for a board of directors of nine members to be appointed by the mayor, with the approval of the city council.

2 Continual agitation of the question must be the watchword. A determined effort must be maintained on the part of the people both within and outside the local library association, to overcome an opposition which may sometimes come from but one or two members of an organization, and yet be enough to block progress.

3 Due attention must be paid to all legal questions of property. In cases where gifts are bestowed upon special conditions, great care should be taken to see that such conditions are kept unbroken.

4 The organization of the new library board requires great prudence. In general it is safe to say that the new board should at first be made up of at least a part of the former board, whose experience in library management, though under different conditions, is valuable.

Until all states have obtained a library law providing for tax sustained libraries, the mission of the subscription library should be preëminently to work toward such end by stimulating a de-

sire for reading and creating public sentiment in favor of a free library, meantime encouraging gifts and collecting such books as will form a valuable nucleus for a public library.

As to the technical details of the change, wherever possible reorganize the library on modern library principles. If this cannot be done all at once, begin with the new accessions on new principles, and as fast as possible work over the old books to the new arrangement.

It is needless to argue at length as to the advantages of the free over the subscription library.

This was followed by a specially good paper on Management of small public libraries, by Miss Freeman, of Michigan City, Ind. An outline of the paper is as follows:

The public library should be not only the educational center of the town or city, and often its art center as well, but it may become, in the language of the new sociology, a center of social service. Just here lies the great opportunity of the librarian of the small library. She is fortunate in her privilege of personal contact with her public, and upon her depends in large measure the atmosphere of the library.

Aim and general attitude of the librarian:

Work with children should cover to age limit, a special room or alcove for them and free access to juvenile books at least.

Work with schools: A classroom is used in Michigan City library, of which each grade in public schools, with teacher, has use for one afternoon session of each month. Books on given topic sent to room, each pupil writes a composition from material furnished, e. g., on incidents of the American revolution, birds, bees, etc. Librarian gives short talks and tests on use of library, reference books, etc. Special lists, bulletins, etc., for the schools, and close coöperation with superintendent and teachers.

Free access: In small libraries, where construction of building makes indiscriminate access impracticable, open-shelf corner or department may be fitted up near delivery desk—Buffalo or Providence plan in miniature.

Work with clubs: Should include reference work, prepared material for club programs, etc., and club rooms in library building.

Use of pictures: Advertise for gifts of magazines, cut pictures from odd and duplicate numbers, mount on gray cards. Portable screens effective backgrounds for pictures. Bulletin board and blackboard. Various library exhibits and special days.

Opportunity of the library among the working classes: Attractive reading room; popular magazines; popular, technical books, according to local industries in manufacturing towns. Bulletins and lists in factories, car-shops, power-houses, etc., with wall-boxes containing library application blanks. Lists of books for girls and women in all factories where women are employed. Place wall-boxes in hotels, railway stations, and other public places. Advertise library through newspapers, and through bulletins, etc., as above.

Extension of library privileges should include traveling and home libraries, fire department, police stations, life-saving stations; regular traveling libraries may be sent them, or a more informal arrangement made. At life-saving station in Michigan City, the captain gives leave of absence to one of the men once a week to exchange books at the library for the crew. A light, compact wooden case, suitable also as a receptacle for the books at the station, is convenient for carrying them back and forth.

The Large library section was in charge of Mr Brett, and covered the general topic of Library organization.

The discussion of The librarian was opened by John Thomson, of the Free library of Philadelphia. He said: The first thing I wish to say is that the ideal librarian is one who is taught upon the broad principle of never doing himself what can possibly be done by an assistant. I was talking once to a prominent business man who said: I never do myself what I can employ a clerk to do for me. So it should be with the librarian. The business of the librarian I take it, first and foremost, is to familiarize himself with the inside of the books. The outside of a book is simply a covering, and no interest can be attached thereto; it is the inside that the readers want to know about.

It is not the part of the librarian to concern himself with the cataloging, classification, and various other things of a similar nature which can be accomplished as well by others, who having no other duty can put their whole minds on it.

Speaking of the title for the librarian, I think the best title which could possibly be selected would be just simply The librarian. I like to say that such and such a person connected with such and such a library is The librarian. It sounds better than anything else. The librarian should be present at every meeting of the board and at all committee meetings, and the first and most cardinal point of usefulness of the librarian is that he should be familiar with the objects of the president and vice-president of the board. He will see dozens and dozens of questions coming before the board, and when he is present he finds himself in position to collect many good points from the experiences of others. When a librarian does not hold his duty sacred then he is unfit for the position; he must sympathize with the assistants in the little troubles which arise from time to time, and if trouble arise between the assistants and the public he should look into the matter carefully, weighing every point, and then act as he thinks loyal to both the public and the library.

I will say in conclusion, we have a rule in Philadelphia which is detestable to the Quaker—that of hats off. A man came into my library on one occasion with his hat on. I reminded him in a polite way of the rule and his answer was, I will not take my hat off. Then with all the coolness I could command I repeated my request. Again he hotly retorted, I shall not take my hat off. For the third time I repeated the request. Even more emphatic were his words this time, and he added, Now what are you going to do about it? My answer was, My dear sir, I shall return to my office and resume my duties.

That man came back to the library in two or three days, and then for several days in succession, but he never entered it again with his hat on. This to illustrate that the librarian, although severely provoked, should maintain his coolness, and under all circumstances be polite and gentlemanly. It tells in the long run every time.

A brief outline of Mr Hosmer's dis-

cussion on the Assistant librarian is as follows:

The assistant librarian is of nearly as much importance as the librarian himself. For instance we will take one of our battleships. It has its captain, its first and second mate, its lieutenant, and so on down. Every one of its officers have their duties to perform, and were it not for them how much could the captain do, although he commands the whole ship? He commands it, but doesn't run it by any means. So I repeat that every library should have its assistants, for the duties of the librarian are such as to make it impossible for him to carry on all duties intelligently without the aid of some one. The assistant should have the charge of the classification of the books and the cataloging. The different parts of the library that must receive frequent and careful attention are too much of a task upon the shoulders of one man, who has so many other things in connection with the library to look after. To sum the duty of an assistant up in a few words it is that he must do whatever he can to help the librarian.

The discussion of Department organization was presented by E. H. Anderson, who spoke as follows:

It seems to me that a department organization for a library is somewhat similar to that of large business houses. Truly it is a matter of business, and it is one which may be attempted on many plans. What we would think good schemes, when applied would be found wanting in many respects. As to the responsibility of the heads of the department, I should say that their responsibility should be very great. If a library is fortunate enough to get a competent head of the department, one in whom they may place confidence, more responsibility will be placed upon that head than would be upon one in whom such confidence could not be placed.

Another department is the printing department. I know of only three libraries now that have a printing department. With this department we

get much better results. We have our own presses and type, and are enabled to do just the kind of work we want with little cost. I think it is both an advantage and an investment for a library to have its own printing department. Another is the binding department. I do not think that a library should necessarily have a bindery department, for the reason that all of us have many good binders in our various cities, and the work may be done just as well, if not better, and at a less cost than if we had our own binding department.

The hour being late the remainder of the program was postponed.

Lithia Springs

On Friday morning the entire party took the train for Sweetwater Park hotel, one of the most charming resorts, and an ideal place for such a gathering as the A. L. A. meeting. The party arrived there before noon and fairly reveled in the pure air, shady trees, lovely flowers, picturesque scenery, and the delightful wide piazza which offered comfort more enticing than any amount of mental effort provided for by program.

At 1 p. m., however, a goodly number gathered in the assembly room and listened to matters held over from Atlanta meetings.

The first thing was a report of the election, which was as follows: President, R. G. Thwaites; first vice-president, E. H. Anderson; second vice-president, Mary W. Plummer; third vice-president, E. C. Richardson; secretary, H. J. Carr; treasurer, G. M. Jones; recorder, Helen E. Haines; members of the council, Dr J. S. Billings, W. C. Lane, Electra C. Doren, and C. W. Andrews; trustee of endowment fund, John M. Glenn.

This was followed by a carefully prepared paper on libraries in the Gulf states by William Beer, librarian of New Orleans. He stated that 260 libraries, with 731,775 v., supplied about 7,000,000 population. While there are a number of valuable collections of rare books and manuscripts, there are very

few live and up-to-date libraries in that section.

A number of other papers were passed, as those preparing them were not present. On resolution, a committee will be appointed to take up the subject of cheap postage for library books, and report in 1900.

A resolution of condolence was extended to Dr Whelpley of Cincinnati, who was held at home by illness.

Free access

Mr Brett opened the most thorough discussion of the year by a paper on Free access to the shelves. He sketched the history of open access in England and America, and recommended for study the brochure on the subject recently issued by 12 English librarians. He believed that any library adopting free access would improve the quality of its reading.

Mr Brett said in part: Pawtucket, Mass., free library was the pioneer in the open-shelf movement. Great opposition was manifest at the first proposal to allow the public free access to the shelves. The change of attitude has been great, and it has now come that no library is called upon to give a reason for open shelves, but rather a library which is opposed to it is called upon to defend its position. The economic side has been found favorable to open shelves, and the educational value is fast becoming recognized. From a mere money point of view the balance is entirely in favor of open shelves. There is no question but open shelves are the means of promoting the use of better books throughout the library, and particularly in the children's rooms. The value of personal contact with books by the inquiring, growing mind cannot be measured.

An important interesting discussion followed, so interesting indeed, that it was prolonged beyond the scheduled time by unanimous vote of the meeting. The chief arguments in favor of open access were the greater satisfaction to readers in the choice of books, and the stimulation of issues in non-fictional

classes. Contra arguments were the loss of books and the confusion caused by disarrangement on the shelves. In some libraries partial access to shelves was allowed. Newark admitted readers to all except art works and valuable books. Buffalo had 53 per cent of its stock on open shelves. The Crerar library gave free access to 3000 of its best books and the loss in two years had been 15v. Minneapolis found that about 300v. were lost every year. Denver had lost 40 books a month for the last 40 months, and the books were often in great confusion, yet they had decided to have open shelves in their new building. Buffalo had lost from its fiction and juvenile departments 298 books in one year, while the loss in biography, with a stock of 9000, was only 19v. The Philadelphia public library lost so many books on civil engineering that a detective was employed. The thief was detected, and in his home were found 83 books on engineering—most of them belonging to libraries with closed shelves. Newark had allowed free access to its reference shelves during the past eight years, and although many plates were stolen yet no volume was lost. St Louis had lost 1062v., nearly all from open shelves. Mr Crunden claimed that the cost of books stolen was not equal to the saving effected by the diminished number of assistants required for open shelves. He pointed out that in Buffalo 12 assistants were required for the 47 per cent of closed shelves, while only three were required for the 53 per cent of open shelves. Cleveland had a circulation of 300,000, and the loss at \$300 a year added one-thirtieth to the cost of issuing a book.

The discussion was perhaps the most popular of the conference, and it closed leaving many speeches unspoken. When a vote on the system was taken only one hand appeared in protest.

The committee on place of meeting reported that invitations for the 1900 meeting had been received from Montreal, from New York, and from the proprietor of the hotel at Thousand

Islands. The committee recommended that the invitation from Montreal be accepted, and this was unanimously agreed to by the meeting.

It was also announced that the mayor and several public bodies of Buffalo had invited the association to hold the 1901 meeting in their city. The secretary was instructed to thank the mayor and to say that the invitation would be considered at the next meeting.

At the close of the general session the Large library section went into a formal session and heard two of the best addresses given. The first was by H. L. Elmendorf of Buffalo, on Assistants.

Mr Elmendorf said in part: Important machinery in a library is useless without courteous assistants. I thoroughly believe in dividing a library of any size into departments, and placing a responsible head in charge of each. Responsibility should be imposed on those in charge, and results adequate to the means exacted. The position calling for the most intellectual equipment is at the loan desk. The girl who makes a mistake there hurts herself and the library; she does not serve the public, who does not take this view of her position. The staff should be educated so that they care nothing for problems, only as they help people. The fact that someone else's custom provides for work being done in a certain way should have no weight, unless one's study of one's own environment and the public to be served will make it plain that the plan is a good one, also for the position to be filled.

Heads of libraries should at once inaugurate a reform in the ideas of duty of the staff toward their work. One important thing is to bring the board to see the necessity of paying more money to those employed. Good talent cannot be had for low wages.

One who has had the position at the loan desk comes to understand the public and its needs, as well as the resources of the library, and this is a good post from which to make promotions to the heads of different departments. The work at the loan desk

should be magnified on every occasion; there is no danger of making the post seem too important. Here is where the public forms its opinion of the library, and the reputation made here will make or break the library. There can be no harm done by the superintendent of affairs, or the heads of departments, giving personal encouragement where it is evident an effort has been made to do good work.

There should be frequent conferences between the heads of different departments so that the work in the library may be symmetrical. Where a fault is seen it should be reported to the head of the department, who should make the correction to the one at fault. It is not a good plan for a matter of correction to go outside the department in which it is needed.

Assistants in the library should see the new books. If it is possible, get a small supply for the staff and keep them for that special use until they have become familiar with what the public is calling for. A more intelligent assistance in the selection of books can be secured in this way, and the increased usefulness of the assistant will recompense for the outlay. The same is true of literary periodicals; duplicate numbers should be taken for the use of the staff.

Time service should have recognition by a small sum only. The length of time of service does not always mark the greatest efficiency of the worker. Entrance examination should determine the appointment to positions, but not to promotions. The heads of departments will be better able to judge of the practicability of promotion than any examination. The reports of work should be made by heads of departments to the management, and all matters of conflict should be settled in the department where it occurs.

Mr Crunden found the examination for promotions a very effective way of determining the matter. He found that boys who had been pages in the library for two or three years, but previously had not had high school training, stood

a better examination than graduates applying for positions in the library.

Mr Dewey was also in favor of entrance examination. He also favored the salary question being settled definitely and irrevocably once a year. He thought that a sliding scale of wages, dependent on equipment and promptness in work, was an incentive for enthusiasm in the staff.

The other paper of the afternoon was by Miss Doren, of Dayton, on Statistics and reports. There was much good, practical doctrine in this paper, and PUBLIC LIBRARIES hopes to present it in full, later.

These were followed by bright talks on library extension as it works in the schools, through stations and through branches, by Miss Stearns, Mr Crunden, and others. At a late hour the meeting adjourned.

Trustees' section

Although the Trustees' section was not largely attended, holding no session until after many of the trustees had returned home, still there was an enthusiastic body of men present who were ready to work for the good of the libraries. There was a long and interesting discussion of the part to be taken by public library trustees in the development of future library work. It was the general opinion that the interior workings of modern libraries have reached a point of excellence beyond which it will be impossible to go without more active coöperation of trustees than is now given. With a view of securing this coöperation, it was unanimously decided to make a special effort to induce a larger attendance of trustees at the Montreal meeting next year.

It was also decided to request the executive board to arrange that one of the general sessions of the next conference shall be devoted entirely to the trustees and their duties. Trustees have always been benefited by the few sessions they have held, and the results have been so satisfactory that now a concerted effort will be made to arouse

permanent interest and enthusiasm on the part of the trustees.

At the close of the day's business the entire company assembled in the delightful dining room of the hotel, and after a bountiful dinner listened to after-dinner speeches by Pres. Lane, Mr Thwaites, Dr Steiner, and Mr Martin of Atlanta. The flow of good spirits was prolonged and finally culminated in a toast to the ever popular Miss Wallace, which was followed by the dispersion of the company.

Two entertainments were offered for the evening—a dance and a business session—and an equal number attended each.

Revision of constitution

Although the revision of the constitution was by no means so popular as the dance in the hall above, yet no one could gainsay its importance. To save time it was agreed at the outset that all matter not included in the amendments should be considered stricken out of the constitution, and further, that after the conference the revision committee be authorized to make necessary verbal changes in the amended draft. It was after midnight when the first reading of the revised constitution was voted. The revision committee were then formally thanked for their labors, were continued until a final draft had been submitted to the executive board, and were authorized to obtain competent legal advice in the state of Massachusetts. The constitution as adopted is as follows:

OBJECT

§1 The object of the American Library Association shall be to promote the welfare of libraries in America.

MEMBERSHIP

§2 Members and fellows. Any person or institution engaged in library work may become a member or fellow by paying the annual dues, and others after election by the executive board.

§3 Honorary members and fellows. On nomination by the council, honorary members may be elected by unanimous vote at any meeting of the association.

§4 Life members and fellows. Any individual member may become a life member, exempt from dues, by paying \$25. By payment of \$100 any individual member may become a life fellow, and any institution a perpetual member.

An individual life member may become a life fellow by paying \$75.

ENDOWMENT FUND.

§5 All receipts from life and perpetual memberships and life fellowships, and all gifts for endowment purposes, shall constitute an endowment fund, which shall be invested and the principal kept forever inviolate. The interest shall be expended as the council may direct. The endowment fund shall be in the custody of three trustees, one of whom shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting, to hold office for three years from the date of his election and until his successor shall be elected. No money from the endowment fund shall be invested or expended except on check signed by a majority of the trustees.

MANAGEMENT

§6 The business of the association shall be entrusted to the executive board and council. But the association may, by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting, take direct action, or revise the action of the executive board or council, or give them mandatory instructions.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

§7 The officers of the association shall be a president, first and second vice-presidents, a secretary, a recorder, and a treasurer, to be elected by the association by ballot at its annual meeting, and to hold office until the adjournment of the meeting at which their successors are elected. These officers, together with the president for the preceding term, shall constitute an executive board, and they shall also serve as officers of the executive board and of the council.

§8 President and vice-presidents. The president shall be the representative head of the association. In case of his death, resignation, or inability to serve, the first vice-president shall become president.

§9 Secretary. The secretary, subject to the general authority of the president and of the executive board, shall be the active executive officer. He shall be elected first for one year, and upon reelection, for a term of three years, and shall have such salary as the council may determine.

§10 Recorder. The recorder shall keep a record of the attendance and proceedings at each meeting of the association, council, or executive board.

§11 Treasurer. The treasurer shall record all receipts and disbursements, collect dues, pay bills on written order of two members of the finance committee, and make an annual report to the association.

§12 Executive board. The executive board shall transact the business of the association, except those entrusted to the council, and it shall have power, in intervals between meetings of the association or of the council, to act on all matters on which those members present at a meeting reach unanimous agreement. The executive board shall appoint from the membership of the association a finance committee of

three, and may appoint other committees, assistant officers, and reporters on special subjects. It shall have authority to arrange the program for the annual meeting, and to decide upon the presentation and printing of papers and reports.

§13 Finance committee. The finance committee shall prepare annual and supplementary budgets, within which appropriations shall be made by the executive board. It shall audit bills, and give orders on the treasurer for payment; and no expense shall be incurred on behalf of the association by any officer or committee in excess of the authorized appropriation.

§14 Votes by correspondence. Approval in writing by every member of the council or any board or committee shall have the force of a vote.

COUNCIL

§15 Members and votes. The council shall consist of the executive board and 25 members elected by the association, five each year, to hold office for five years. The members of the present council shall serve their terms as members of the new council, and the additional members shall be chosen upon the adoption of this constitution.

§16 Meetings. The council shall meet at the place of meeting of the association, immediately prior to the annual meeting of the association and immediately prior to the final session thereof, and also between meetings of the association on call of the executive board or of a majority of the councilors.

§17 Duties. The council shall adopt by-laws for the association. It shall nominate officers and trustees of the endowment fund, and shall include on a printed ballot other nominations filed with the secretary by five members of the association 24 hours before the election. It may, by a two-thirds vote, establish sections of the association. It may promulgate recommendations of the association relating to library matters, on approval by a two-thirds vote of the council, and no resolutions except votes of thanks and on local arrangements shall be otherwise promulgated.

PUBLISHING BOARD

§18 The publishing board shall consist of five members appointed by the executive board for terms of not more than three years. Its object shall be to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve.

§19 The publishing board shall annually appoint its chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

§20 No moneys shall be paid by the treasurer, and no work shall be undertaken except by vote of a majority of the whole board.

§21 The treasury of the publishing board shall be entirely distinct from that of the association, and the association shall not be liable for any debts incurred by the publishing board. With the approval of the finance committee,

money may be appropriated by the executive board from the treasury of the association for the running expenses of the publishing board.

§22 The publishing board shall report in print at each annual meeting of the association.

MEETINGS

§23 Annual meetings. There shall be an annual meeting of the association at such place and time as may be determined by the council.

§24 Special meetings. Special meetings of the association may be called by the executive board, and shall be called by the president on request of 20 members of the association. At least one month's notice shall be given, and only business specified in the call shall be transacted.

§25 Quorum. Forty members shall constitute a quorum.

AMENDMENTS AND BY-LAWS

§26 Amendments. This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting at two successive meetings of the association, provided that notice of the amendments in their final form be sent to every member of the association one month before they are voted upon.

§27 By-laws. Any by-law may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at any meeting of the association or council.

The committee on resolutions brought in the usual report, expressing the appreciation of the A. L. A. and its thanks for all the courtesies enjoyed at the hands of Atlanta's people, but particularly from Mr Martin and Miss Wallace, which was enthusiastically and unanimously adopted.

A. L. A. Notes

The number of kodaks at the conference was outnumbered only by the pink shirt waists.

The eastern party presented F. W. Faxon with an A. L. A. pin as a mark of their appreciation of his efforts as travel secretary.

Sam Walter Foss of Somerville, Mass.; Mrs E. B. Heard, superintendent of the library department of the Seaboard air line; F. J. Teggart of San Francisco, Mrs Lina Brown Reed of Minneapolis, and Miss Gleason of Los Angeles, were among the active library workers who attended the A. L. A. meeting for the first time.

Miss Wallace, of Atlanta, was presented with a gold watch by a dozen gentlemen, as a testimonial of their appreciation of her effective work in

arranging details of comfort in connection with the meeting.

A library trustee, who has held important place in the political and literary world, and who attended the A. L. A. meeting for the first time, said of it: The people here are the most all-round people I have ever met. I never saw such earnestness and enthusiasm in talking shop, and at the same time such perfect readiness and ability to talk on any other subject introduced. Art, literature, sociology, current events, love or war—it is all one to them. They are ready and able to talk intelligently on any or all of these subjects. These librarians are wonderful people!

The library exhibit this year was not so extensive as that at Lakewood, and yet some very clever things were shown. The Library Bureau had an exhibit of stacks, catalog cases, magazine rack, charging outfits, besides all the standard supplies indorsed by the A. L. A. The Fenton stack was on exhibition also. The Wernicke elastic bookcase, with its neat collection of books, made a good display. The collection of animal pictures sent by Pratt institute attracted much attention. The library school of the university of Illinois had a most attractive collection of special day bulletins and lists. The rooms in which the exhibit was placed were in rather an out-of-the way place, and consequently the collection did not receive as much attention as it deserved.

The Trip to Atlanta and Return

The eastern party

After a cool and restful night's sail from Fall River to New York the New England party was recruited at Jersey City by the New York delegation. Several New Englanders found it was convenient to join the excursion there, while one who did not want "any water in his" could not be persuaded to try the Cape Charles route, with its delightful twilight sail over to Old Point Comfort.

At Philadelphia the special party was

increased to over 70, and then began a delightful ride through that peninsular which is made up from three states, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. A box lunch occupied the party for nearly 50 miles, and was most unexpectedly concluded by a course of strawberries and ice cream.

The Hygeia hotel gave substantial, solid comfort, and all retired early except the few who were lured across the way to the Saturday night hop at the Chamberlain.

Sunday morning a shower freshened up the foliage and laid the dust. We frequently exclaimed at the many beautiful shades of green all about, the grass, the maples, the dark evergreens with their fresh new shoots on every branch, like Christmas-trees with candles all ready to be lighted. After breakfast, the guard mount at Fortress Monroe attracted many of the librarians, and some time was spent at the neat little post library within the fortifications.

Special trolley cars then conveyed the party to Hampton institute, where the A. L. A. meeting really began, for Pres. Lane addressed the students on the use of books. He was followed by Miss Hewins, Mr Soule, and Mr Bowker. Then the boys and girls sang to us as only Hampton students can, filling the immense church without aid of organ. It was inspiring, and will long be remembered by all who were present.

Early in the afternoon we left Old Point Comfort by boat for our special train of Pullman cars which was in waiting at Norfolk.

Monday was spent on the train, our journey being broken by a charmingly unique country breakfast at Rogersville Junction, and a rather pretentious dinner at the Dalton hotel. A genuine surprise was in store for us, for about 150 miles from Atlanta a car was attached to our train, and we found 50 friends from the west. With the general reunion that followed the distance to Atlanta seemed very short.

The return

The parting came on top of Lookout mountain, or to speak more accurately, at the Central depot in Chattanooga, where, at 3 p. m. Monday, the eastern special pulled out on its way to Washington.

Tuesday we were early astir for the two-mile tally-ho ride to Natural Bridge and breakfast. The bridge was far ahead of our expectations, with its ponderous arch of stone high above the beautiful ravine. The breakfast was restful, nothing more; for we got there ahead of time, and the service seemed slow. At 2 we were discussing a good dinner at the Mansion inn, Luray, and then came an hour's walk underground in a most marvelous cavern, where all manner of queer shapes were seen in the beautiful stalactites, of which tens of thousands hung from above.

Arriving at Washington Tuesday, at 10:30 p. m., the party was soon soundly sleeping. Wednesday a lunch tendered by the staff of the Library of congress was a delightful feature of our stay in the capitol city, while in the evening we were shown all over the immense building, from the tunnel which carries books to the capitol to the upper gallery of the splendid reading room. Mr Green himself acted as guide. Thus most fittingly our trip was ended, the party breaking up Thursday morning, there still being enough for a special car to New York. F. W. F.

The western party

A very merry party took the Monon train at Chicago, Saturday evening, May 6. It was made up of travelers from Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana, many of whom met for the first time, but before many hours they had made acquaintances which will ripen into lasting friendships. Cincinnati lay before us early on Sunday morning, and after a tedious wait on the proper amount of red tape to be rolled off between railroads, the party was finally landed terra firma.

After breakfast we started out to look round the Queen city. The public li-

brary was naturally the first place to be visited, and the height of its galleried walls was impressed on our minds no less than the courtesy of its staff. The librarian was unfortunately ill, so we sent him a basket of flowers as a token of sympathy. Early afternoon found us aboard handsome trolley cars, the guests of the Library board of Cincinnati, for a ride round the city and a visit to the Zoo. The suburbs were beautiful enough to justify the enthusiastic statements of the mayor and leading citizens who acted as guides. In the Zoo the same bags of peanuts served to feed squirrels, elephants, polar bears, and—librarians! But before leaving the Zoo we were provided with ices and other good things, while the other animals inside the cages were left to meditate on the distance between them and bookworms. The trolleys were resumed for the ride back through Eden park, and after showing us how quickly Cincinnati cars can run without killing anyone, they took us down the show incline. We felt quite sure that the incline track was made purposely to impress strangers, and that if the proprietors had gone a little way on either side they would have found an easy descent. We felt, too, that an insurance man could do a big business at the top of that incline. It was with a feeling of relief that we found ourselves back at the door of the hotel. After dinner we left the Queen city, taking on board new arrivals from points in Ohio and Indiana.

Next morning we arrived at Chattanooga, and after taking breakfast and exercise in the town we started for Dalton Junction to meet the eastern party. And what a meeting! Everybody shook hands with everybody else, and we all looked supremely happy, just as if we were meeting people from the Klondyke or from Manila. And then we told what we had seen and they told what they had seen, and we asked about each others' libraries and coworkers and cousins and aunts, until at last we arrived in Atlanta.

As for the sessions at Atlanta, and the barbecue, and other entertainments,

are they not written of in another place? A most charming place is this same Lithia Springs, and Sweetwater Park hotel is an ideal place for work, rest, or what not. The water was delicious, the table fine, the rooms delightful, the scenery beautiful, and enough historic interest surrounds the place to engage all the attention.

The ride to the ruins of the tremendous cotton mill destroyed by Sherman's men is very picturesque, and the ruins themselves well worth a trip to see. Much of the mill still remains, and the frames of the huge water wheels show their former size. Trees over 100 feet high and 16 inches in diameter grow within the space formerly the scene of busy labor. It is an impressive sight. But we must not linger in the pleasant air and scenery at Lithia Springs, but hurry back to Chattanooga with the crowd.

We of the western party did not mind the ride up Lookout mountain after our experience at Cincinnati, so we tried to scare the eastern folk by pointing out the steepness of the ascent. But they were not to be scared, and we were soon at the top of the mountain. The Lookout inn had gone bankrupt just in time to fool us, and although the proprietor of the Point hotel tried to pack us all into his rooms, yet some of us escaped, and held overflow meetings in the neighboring cottages.

Sunday was spent in rest on the mountain top. Most of the party visited the various points of interest, reading the bronze tablets, taking snap shots, and buying souvenirs. Toward evening we gathered on the terrace and enjoyed the magnificent view. A glorious sunset did not satisfy us, for we lingered on the terrace until the lights twinkled all over Chattanooga in the valley beneath us.

Next morning we were interested in tales told by laggards who had just come from Lithia Springs. Some of them had been in a collision, and during an enforced wait were only rescued from starvation by some Iowa troopers who went on a foraging expedition, and

returned with a pail of milk! Other laggards had only arrived that morning, yet they pretended that they had "done" the whole mountain. We left them in their self-satisfied ignorance, for we had bills to pay and baggage to prepare, and were not carriages for a drive awaiting us at the foot of the mountain?

The drive to the Chickamauga battlefield was a delightful one. The weather was perfect, as indeed it had been all through the trip, and the scenery was superb. More serious thoughts possessed us as we drove over the battlefield itself, and had the various fighting positions explained to us. The hundreds of tablets and mounted guns had ever their own story to tell, but to the present scribe the most touching inscription was the simple legend over the gateway: Here rest in peace 12,956 citizens who died for their country in the years 1861-1863.

On the return drive an incident occurred which promptly brought us back to material things. It was the middle of the day, and we were feeling very hot and thirsty, when we came upon a garden where strawberries were being gathered for shipment. We promptly drew up on the roadside and exchanged nickels for boxes of the delicious fruit. Where, oh where was the photographer? Never again will the chance occur of fixing so many staid librarians, everyone of them with a quart of strawberries and an expression of supreme content.

After dinner came the parting. The wise men and women from the east boarded their train, which pulled out of Chattanooga amid farewells. The conference was over.

We westerners went up the mountain again to stay until the morning's train should carry us through the blue grass regions to our northern and western homes. But why detail the journey home? We prefer to stop right here on the mountain top, with the stars shining above, and the lights of the city twinkling below. Let us rest while we may.

A. T.

Circulating Libraries in the South

Vice-president and general manager E. St. John, of the Seaboard air line railroad, which runs through Virginia, North and South Carolina and Georgia, has introduced a novel scheme for the benefit of the people along its line and immediate vicinity, by establishing 10 circulating libraries, each containing a number of volumes, and the books in each library are different from those in the others. These libraries are moved from point to point along the line, and placed in charge of an assistant industrial agent of the company.

People of the town to which a library is sent are advised that they can obtain books therefrom for a period of 10 days by calling upon the industrial agent, or the assistant industrial agent, the former of whom is a gentleman and the latter a lady well-known in the community where the library is sent. The books are all standard works, which are appropriate to the locality in which they are circulated, and are principally those relating to good farming and good housekeeping, and also containing instructions as to how the people may improve their surroundings.

The libraries are in charge of Mrs E. B. Heard, a lady of culture, whose home is at Middletown, Ga., with whom the work is a labor of love, as she has spent her life in doing good and aiding the people in the vicinity of her home. The work is largely appreciated and the distribution of the books among the people, it is said, is becoming almost universal in the different localities.

The interest in the libraries has become widespread, and large numbers of books, papers, and magazines have been donated to the railroad company for the use of the library division. A check for \$1000 was recently received from Andrew Carnegie to help the work along, and a large number of choice books were received from Mrs Lipscomb, principal of the Lucy Cobb institute of Athens, Ga.

The library work is yielding very satisfactory results, and has proved a

great help in the rural communities, as letters received by the railway officials from women along the lines show that the libraries have done much to brighten the lives and homes of the country people by bringing within reach of the people that which is so much desired, and yet in those remote communities so difficult to obtain—up-to-date, standard literary works.

As fast as a community has read the works in one library it is moved to another town, and another entirely different set of works is sent in its place. The scheme has met with so much success that it is probable that the plan will be adopted by some of the western lines.

Library Department of the National Educational Association

Third annual meeting to be held in Los Angeles July 13-14, 1899

Program

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 13

- 3:00 1 The function of school superintendents in securing libraries, and their proper use in public schools. Alfred Bayliss, state superintendent of public instruction, Springfield, Ill.
- 2 Possible relations between the library and the public schools. Mrs. Grace Darling Madden, State normal school, Milwaukee, Wis.
- 3 General discussion of report of committee on Relation of public libraries to public schools. J. C. Dana, Springfield, Mass., Chairman.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 14

- 3:00 1 School reading. M. E. Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, Chicago, Ill.
- 2 How to acquire a taste for good reading. Elizabeth Skinner, Denver, Col.
- 3 Use of the library. C. C. Young, Lowell, high school, San Francisco, Cal.

Local committee—Harriet Wadleigh, Chairman.

Reference Lists for June

Special

- 9* Stephenson, George, 1781-1848.
9 John Howard Payne, 1792-1852.
29 Celia Thaxter, 1835-1894.

General

Flag day.

Summer resorts.

Robin Hood.

*Great inventors—locomotive engines.

News from the Field

East

J. Pierpoint Morgan has given \$10,000 toward a new public library at Holyoke, Mass.

Rodney Wallace has given \$10,000 for books and stacks to the public library of Fitchburg, Mass.

Emily H. Howe of New York has given to Hanover, N. H., a handsome residence, valued at \$15,000, for a free public library, as a memorial to her father, B. D. Howe.

Reuben A. Guild, librarian emeritus of Brown university, died at Providence, May 14. He was so long connected with the college that he was known to practically all of the graduates now living.

During the years 1897 and 1898 there were received in the Maine state library as a permanent addition, 4752v., which were gained by purchase, exchange, and donation. State Librarian Carver says there are undoubtedly over 300 libraries in the state today ministering to the intellectual needs of the people. Of these he gave a list of 240 in his last report. He estimates that during the past two years there have been \$200,000 in donations to old libraries and in founding new ones.

At the occasion of the opening of the new lecture hall of the Boston public library May 17, a replica of the celebrated Chantrey bust of Sir Walter Scott was unveiled in the presence of about 500 invited men and women prominent in the community. The bust was placed in Westminster Abbey some time ago by subscribers in Scotland, England, and the United States, and the replica was presented to the Boston library by the Westminster memorial committee as a compliment to the American subscribers.

Central Atlantic

Dr J. H. Canfield, president of the Ohio state university, has been appointed librarian of Columbia university, New York.

The mayor of New York city has approved the measure allowing \$500,000 to begin work on the new library building.

Ethel Downes and Nellie E. Hemson, pupils of Theresa Hitchler, have been appointed catalogers in the library of University of Pennsylvania.

The New Jersey library commission is making plans for sending out traveling libraries under direction of State librarian Buchanan. They will have about \$1500 for the first year's work.

The New Brunswick, N. J., public library report for the past year shows a home circulation of 56,111v. and a library use of 33,946v. This library has free access to all the books except fiction.

Mary McCutcheon, assistant librarian of the Wagner branch of the Philadelphia free library, has been appointed librarian of Girard college, to succeed George P. Rupp, who resigned to accept the librarianship of the Masonic temple.

The park commissioners of Brooklyn have laid a plan to have small libraries placed in the various parks in small buildings erected for the purpose. Mrs. Mary E. Craigie, president of the Brooklyn library association, will have the matter in charge.

The Harvard Club of New York is doing some interesting and unique work in the making of a special library relating to Harvard university and its alumni.

It has now reached 1950v., containing about 5000 separate writings, some of the volumes being made up of bound pamphlets.

Central

S. M. Stephenson has given \$25,000 for a new library building to Menominee, Mich.

A collection of books for the blind has been placed in the public library at Kansas City, Mo.

Ella G. Parmele, of Pratt '98, has been appointed librarian of the State normal school at Oshkosh, Wis.

Elma Warwick, of Armour '97, has been appointed librarian of the Withers' library at Bloomington, Ill.

The public library of Depere, Wis., was destroyed by fire May 19. The loss will reach \$2000, with insurance of \$700.

The Carnegie library building of Allegheny, Pa., is to have a \$25,000 annex. Librarian Stevenson has drawn the plans at Mr Carnegie's suggestion.

Virginia N. Odor, reference librarian in the Cleveland public library, was married May 10 to Harry N. Richey, managing editor of the Cleveland Press.

Evva L. Moore resigned her position as librarian of the Withers' library, Bloomington, Ill., to accept the librarianship of Scoville institute at Oak Park, Ill.

The library collected by the late Dr W. F. Poole, of Chicago, will shortly be offered for sale. It is very rich in Americana, and particularly so in first editions.

Angie Neff, for nine years librarian of the Duluth, Minn., public library, and one of the most successful librarians of the state, has resigned her position.

Carl A. Spilker has given a handsome residence in the heart of the city to the public library board of Muncie, Ind., for library purposes. The gift is valued at \$10,000.

Belle F. Osborn has been appointed librarian of the public library at Ashland, Ohio. The library will soon be moved into new quarters and thoroughly organized.

Anna Hubbard, of Pratt '98, and recently librarian of the State normal school at Oshkosh, Wis., has been appointed assistant librarian in the State library of Indiana.

A bibliographical club is being started in Chicago, for the purpose of making bibliography more prominent in literary and library work. A list of the bibliography in the Chicago libraries will shortly be prepared. A. G. S. Joseph-

son, F. H. Hild, C. Hastings, and Juul Dieserud are among those most interested. Many plans are under consideration.

The report of Librarian Wright, of St Joseph, Mo., shows a large decrease in circulation owing to the closing of the library by the diphtheria epidemic. The use of the reference room was largely increased. The home circulation for the year was 104,146v.

The annual report of Mrs C. W. Whitney of the Kansas City public library shows 40,000v. in the library, and a circulation of 108,567v. last year. The report is well illustrated with views of the different departments and rooms. The new features of the library are the children's reading room, occupied exclusively by children, where there are stacks of children's books, and the museum, which occupies the basement of the building.

The children's room of the Toledo public library took notice of Queen Victoria's birthday on May 24 by placing in prominence all the material available bearing on the queen or her reign. There was placed on a table a portrait of the queen and a sketch of her life, pictures of the royal oak, which is the family tree of Victoria, her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. There was an account of the queen's jubilee illustrated, pictures and sketches of Tennyson, Browning, Gladstone, and other men who have made Victoria's reign so glorious. There were also pictures of St. Paul, the tower of London, houses of parliament, and Westminster abbey, and a great many books which relate to England under her present sovereign. These were exceedingly interesting.

West

Fairmount college at Wichita, Kan., has issued an appeal for books for its library. The movement has the approval of Dr Hale and Senator Hoar.

The report of the Bozeman, Mont., public library shows that cards have

been issued to 257 new borrowers during the year. Cards in actual use during the year, 690. Aggregate of volumes loaned, more than 16,500. Number of books in hands of borrowers April 25, 350. Number of new volumes purchased during the year, 500. Number now in library, 4502. There are besides in the library rooms nearly 500v. of reports, etc.

There has been expended from the city library fund, \$1,089.53 Of this, has been paid to the librarian on account of salary, \$240; to the bookbinder for re-binding old books, \$121.30; for new books, very nearly \$600. The rest for refitting the library rooms, etc., about \$128. There is a balance in the library fund of \$552.46

South

A wave of library enthusiasm seems sweeping over Texas. Ft Worth, Dallas, Sherman, Waco, San Antonio, Houston, and a number of other towns, are forging ahead in library matters, and are either starting new libraries or putting new life into old ones.

Miss Wallace was elected librarian of the new Carnegie library of Atlanta May 20. The present library will be re-classified and cataloged and put in up-to-date condition, preparatory to removal to the new building when completed.

Mayor Price, of Macon, Ga., a few months ago personally started a free reading room in that city, where all who chose might have a newspaper to take home and read. The scheme has grown and attracted interests to itself until it bids fair to become a well-established and successful free public library. Donations are coming in beyond all provisions made for them, and now an offer of ground and means to build a library building has been made by a Macon philanthropist.

Foreign

H. J. Brown, of London, well known to American librarians, has entered a partnership with B. F. Stevens in London, with whom he has been employed for the past 27 years.

Library Department
A. C. McCLURG & CO.
CHICAGO

OUR LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

Is devoted exclusively
to the requirements of

Public, University, College, School
and Club Libraries

And every endeavor is made to fill all orders with promptness and care.

THE FACT that we carry in our stock a more nearly complete assortment of the standard and popular books of all American publishers, and of many English publishers, than perhaps any other house in the country, gives us exceptional facilities for filling promptly and satisfactorily from our stock the wants of such libraries.

We are continually receiving large consignments of FOREIGN BOOKS — those for public libraries being imported free of duty — and we make a specialty of picking up both domestic and foreign books which are out of print, or which for other reasons are difficult to secure.

Librarians are cordially invited to correspond with us, and, when possible, to visit us and use the facilities of our store and library department in examining and making their selection of books.

A. C. McCLURG & CO., CHICAGO

LIBRARY ADHESIVES



1



2



3

1-HIGGINS' PHOTO MOUNTER. A beautiful homogeneous adhesive, pure white and delicately scented, for mounting photographs, textile samples, scrap book, tissue work, and general use as a substitute for mucilage. Always ready and requires no preparation. In 3 oz., 6 oz., 14 oz. and $\frac{1}{2}$ Gallon and Gallon Jars. 3 oz. Jar prepaid by mail, thirty cents.

2-HIGGINS' TAURINE MUCILAGE. A strong, clear, non-sedimentary Fluid Mucilage of great strength and quick catch. Non-corrosive, and will not become dirty and stained in use. Adopted by the School Board of Indianapolis to the exclusion of all other mucilages. In 2 oz., 4 oz., $\frac{1}{2}$ Pt. and Qt. Bottles, and 1, 2 and 5 Gallon Cans. 2 oz. Bottle prepaid by mail, twenty-five cents.

3-HIGGINS' DRAWING-BOARD AND LIBRARY MUCILAGE. A Semi-fluid Adhesive of extraordinary strength. For sticking paper to paper, paper to cloth, or leather to paper or both, it is unequalled. Excellent for mounting drawings, maps or pictures on cloth, paper or wood, and for repairing and labelling books. The 5,000 volumes of the model library at the World's Fair were repaired and labelled with it, and it was voluntarily exhibited and recommended by the committee in charge as the only satisfactory adhesive for the purpose. Its utility in libraries is hence apparent. In 3 oz., 6 oz., 14 oz. and $\frac{1}{2}$ Gallon and Gallon Jars. 3 oz. Jar prepaid by mail, thirty cents.

SOLD BY DEALERS IN ARTISTS' MATERIALS, PHOTO SUPPLIES AND STATIONERY.

These goods are peculiarly adapted for library use, being of the very highest standard and hence popular educators in themselves. The adhesives are extremely strong, yet spread easily and smoothly in a very thin film, so that they go further than starch or flour pastes or gum mucilages, and as they never deteriorate or spoil there is no waste, and they are hence more economical in the end than cheap goods. Descriptive circulars and full information will be sent postpaid on application.

CHAS. M. HIGGINS & CO., Originators and Manufacturers,

INKS AND ADHESIVES.

168-172 Eighth St., Brooklyn, N. Y., U. S. A.

London Office: 106 Charing Cross Road.

Wisconsin Summer School of Library Science

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

TO BE HELD AT

Madison, Wis., July 3 to August 25, 1899

In connection with the University of
Wisconsin Summer School

An eight weeks' course is offered to librarians and to those who wish to prepare for some definite position. Tuition, \$15.

Special course in cataloging and classification during the last four weeks. Tuition, \$10.

Application for enrollment must be in before June 10, 1899. For further information address

F. A. HUTCHINS,

State Library Commission, Madison, Wis.

or

MISS CORNELIA MARVIN, Director,
Scoville Institute, Oak Park, Ill.

4-6

Rebind Your Books

We want Library work—all we can get.

We are making a success of rebinding and the repairing of books. Many books can be re-sewed and replaced in their original covers at a small expense.

Never discard a book if there are no leaves missing. We will rebind and return it to you better bound than the day it was published.

We bind more magazines than any firm in Chicago—because of our high-grade work and close prices.

We do our work according to the specifications of the Chicago Public Library.

Prices: { Magazines, 50 cents and upward.
Rebinding, 35 cents and upward.
Repairing, 10 cents and upward.

If you have work to be done, let us hear from you now.

THE BOOK SHOP BINDERY

171 Madison Street - - CHICAGO

6-6

IMPORTANT TO ALL LIBRARIANS**Library Bureau****SUPPLIES**

Accession books
Book supports

A. L. A. publications
Book trucks

Card catalog cases

Catalog cards

Charging system cards

Card catalog rules

Children's reading-room furniture

Labels
L. B. chairs
L. B. steel stacks

Label holders
L. B. flat top desks
L. B. tables

Library periodicals

Library Notes *Public Libraries* *Library Primer* (in press)

Printed catalog cards
Special file cases
Special pamphlet cases

Printed shelf labels
Special scrapbooks
Special periodical racks

Special woodwork

Classified illustrated catalog sent on application

Library Bureau

Boston, 530 Atlantic Ave.
New York, 280 Broadway

Chicago, 215 Madison St.
Philadelphia, 112-116 N. Broad St.
Washington, D.C., 1416 F St., N.W.
London Paris

Public, University, College and School == Libraries ==

Are customers of ours. We give them: An experienced and efficient service, the result of years of attention to Library business.

The advantage of our stock of hundreds of thousands of volumes, supplemented by direct access to the largest American book market.

We buy in large quantities and share special rates with our customers. Send your lists to us for itemized prices; quotations will be for editions suitable for library wear.

We have just issued a NEW LIBRARY LIST, 2500 VOLS., carefully selected and classified; an unbiased, representative collection of best books.


We issue a clearance catalog twice a year—real book bargains. Also occasional numbers of the Librarian's Help Series, and other material of interest to book buyers. All of which are sent upon request.

THE BAKER & TAYLOR COMPANY

Wholesale Book Dealers


5 and 7 East Sixteenth Street

NEW YORK



**WEBSTER'S
INTERNATIONAL
DICTIONARY**

WEBSTER'S



**A Dictionary of ENGLISH,
Biography, Geography, Fiction, etc.**

It excels in the ease with which the eye finds the word sought; in accuracy of definition; in effective methods of indicating pronunciation; in terse and comprehensive statements of facts and in practical use as a working dictionary.


Hon D. J. Brewer, Justice of U. S. Supreme Court, says:
"I commend it to all as the one great standard authority."

It is the **Standard Authority** of the U. S. Supreme Court, all the State Supreme Courts, the U. S. Government Printing Office, and of nearly all the Schoolbooks. Warmly commended by State Superintendents of Schools, and other Educators almost without number.


Specimen pages sent on application.

G. & C. MERRIAM CO., Publishers,
Springfield, Mass.

**GET
THE
BEST**



INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY



LOTHROP'S NEW BOOKS.

THE STORIES POLLY PEPPER TOLD.

By MARGARET SIDNEY, author of the famous "Pepper Books." Illustrated by Jessie McDermott and Etheldred B. Barry. 12mo, \$1.50.

A charming "Addenda" to the famous "Five Little Pepper" stories. A unique plan of introducing old friends anew. Will be welcomed by thousands of children.

"One of the best series of books ever issued for young people."—*S. S. Bulletin*.

THE STORY OF OUR WAR WITH SPAIN.

By ELBRIDGE S. BROOKS. Nearly one hundred illustrations. 12mo, \$1.50.

Authentic, complete, up-to-date. From the destruction of the MAINE to the signing of the treaty.

"Mr. Brooks has succeeded in giving a bird's-eye view of the war. Told simply and without much detail in an interesting and comprehensive manner."—*The Outlook*.

TALES OF THE MALAYAN COAST. From Penang to the Philippines.

By Consul-General WILDMAN. Dedicated to Admiral Dewey. Illustrated by Sandham. 12mo, gilt top, \$1.00.

"Have much of that rugged power that characterizes Kipling's 'Jungle Stories.' . . . The ring and thrill of every one of these tales is a very live quality."—*Boston Herald*.

"Mr. Wildman has introduced a new type to literature."—*Boston Journal*.

THE DESPATCH BOAT OF THE WHISTLE. A Story of Santiago.

By WILLIAM O. STODDARD. Illustrated by Frank T. Merrill. 12mo, \$1.25.

A bright, breezy land and sea story of the war with Spain.

"Masterly is the word for it."—*Boston Journal*.

GERMANY, HER PEOPLE AND THEIR STORY.

By AUGUSTA HALE GIFFORD. Fully illustrated. 593 pages. 8vo, cloth, emblematic cover, \$1.75.

A new, up-to-date, popular history of Germany from Arminius to William II. Written by the wife of an American consul, long resident in Germany.

"We do not recall any history of the Fatherland more likely to interest all members of the family circle. . . . It is written by an American for Americans."—*Portland Transcript*.

At all bookstores, or sent postpaid, upon receipt of price. Portrait catalog sent free on application.

LOTHROP PUBLISHING COMPANY, - - Boston, Mass.

MAGAZINES

I will undertake to supply any magazine or review published, at a price per copy depending upon its market value, or the cost of finding same, if not on hand. I have considerably over 500,000 Magazines in stock, and the assortment is as varied as the production of the periodical press for the past one hundred years. A Business-like Query, with List of Wants, will be met by a Prompt and Business-like Reply.

A. S. CLARK

Bookseller and Newsdealer,

174 Fulton St., NEW YORK.

CLEVELAND
PUBLIC LIBRARY

L. B.

Perforating Stamp

SEND FOR LIST TO LIBRARY BUREAU

THE
Remington



Standard Typewriter

Has demonstrated its superiority for all kinds of Library Work

For **CARD INDEXING** it greatly excels the pen. It is more convenient and easy to operate, and its work is far neater, more rapid and more legible.

The **REMINGTON** is strong, simple, and durable. It never fails at critical moments. It can always be depended upon to do the highest grade of work.

Send for special pamphlet giving specimens of card work, and quoting testimony of prominent institutions which are using it.

WYCKOFF, SEAMANS & BENEDICT,

327 Broadway, NEW YORK.

Library Bureau

Periodical Rack and File Case



Height from floor, 5 feet 1 inch. Height from floor to top drawer, 40 inches.
Width, 5 feet 1 inch; depth, 16 inches.

A new, handsome antique oak periodical case, with shelves for the display of current periodicals and drawer to contain back numbers. Widely adopted by libraries.

Library Bureau

Boston, 530 Atlantic Avenue

New York, 265-269 Stewart Building, Broadway

Philadelphia, 112-116 N. Broad Street

London, 10 Bloomsbury Street, W.C.

Chicago, 215 Madison Street

Washington, D.C., 1416 F Street, N.W.

Paris, 49 Rue Rambuteau

Library Bureau

Supplies the following publications for library workers:

Author tables

Alphabetic order table. 3 figures. 2 parts. Vowels and S, \$1; and Consonants, except S, \$1.50. By C. A. Cutter and Kate Sanborn. Complete, \$2.50.

NOTE—Each work has its exclusive book number, and books stand on shelves alphabetized by authors, thus bringing all the works of one author on one subject together.

Decimal author table. 2 figures. By C. A. Cutter. Mounted, \$1.25.

Bibliographies

Annotated bibliography of fine art. By Russell Sturgis. Music by Henry Edward Krehbiel. Edited by George Iles. A list of 1000 carefully chosen books, with notes. 1897. Cloth, \$1; paper, 50c.

Books for boys and girls. By Caroline M. Hewins. Prepared as a help in buying books for small libraries. 1897. Paper, 10c.

List of books for girls and women and their clubs. By Augusta Leypoldt and George Iles. 2100 selected books worth reading, with annotations. 1895. Cloth, \$1; paper, 50c.

List of French fiction. By Madame Sophie Cornu and William Beer. 186 titles of works by 70 representative French authors. 1898. Paper, 10c.

Reading for the young, and supplement. By John Sargent. Edited by Mary E. and Abby L. Sargent. A classified annotated catalog with alphabetic list of authors. 1890-96. Cloth, \$1.50.

Catalogs

Classified illustrated catalog of the library department of LIBRARY BUREAU.

Illustrated catalog of the Library Bureau steel stacks.

Card catalog rules

Eclectic card catalog rules. By Klas Linderfeldt. 1890. Cloth, \$1.50; paper, \$1.25.

Simplified library school rules. 1898. Cloth, \$1.25.

Classifications

Decimal classification and relative index. By Melvil Dewey. For arranging, cataloging, and indexing public and private libraries, and for pamphlets, clippings, notes, scraps, etc. Subjects are divided into 10 classes, and divided into 60 divisions with 10 sections. 5th edition. 1894. Half turkey, gilt top, A. L. A., \$5.

Abridged decimal classification and relative index. By Melvil Dewey. 1895. Cloth, \$1.50.

Expansive classification. By C. A. Cutter. 2 parts. Part 2 not yet completed. 7 tables of classification of progressive features designed to meet the needs of a library at its successive pages of growth. Subscription to complete work, \$5.

Periodicals

Library Notes

Public Libraries

Library Primer (*in press*)

Printed catalog cards

Catalog card of current publications.

Catalog cards of articles in current periodicals.

Subject headings

A. L. A. list of subject headings for use in dictionary catalogs. 2d edition. 1898. Cloth, \$2.

Library Bureau

Boston New York Philadelphia Chicago Washington, D.C. London Paris

